

THE
North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XLIII., No. 1169. SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 27, 1889. PRICE, T'LS. 12 7/16 AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
Money	769
SUMMARY OF NEWS	770
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
Christmas	773
A San Francisco account of Railways in China	773
REVIEW—	
The French Mail Papers	774
OUTPORTS—	
Chinkiang	775
Yokohama	776
MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council	776
The Children's Home	777
China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society	778
AMUSEMENTS—	
A.D.C. Performance	781
Paper Hunt	781
Football	782
Police Shooting Club	782
Police Monthly Cup	782
Foochow Races	782
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Prehistoric China	782
POETRY—	
A Paper Hunt Incident	783
MISCELLANEOUS—	
The Motion of Railway Trains	783
Notes from Native Papers	785
LAW REPORT—	
Marine Court of Enquiry—	
The loss of the <i>Nylghau</i>	785
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—	
Market Report	787
Exchange Quotations	792
Share Quotations, &c.	792

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATA.

England	Nov. 22	Hankow	Dec. 23
San Francisco	21	Yokohama	18
Hongkong	Dec. 24	Nagasaki	23
Tientsin	21	Foochow	21

Shanghai mail advices of 9th November were received in London on the 13th December.

BIRTHS.

On Monday, 23rd December, 1889, at No. 17, North Soochow Road, the wife of EDWARD EVANS, of a son.

At Shanghai, on Sunday, 21st December, 1889, the wife of OSBORNE MIDDLETON, of a daughter.

At 35, Foochow Road, Shanghai, on the 26th instant, the wife of J. J. MANSFIELD, of a son.

DEATH.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 26th December, 1889, JOSEPH BENNION, late Chief Pilot, s.s. *Shanghai*, aged 27 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. R. S. Furlong and L. Webster. For Kobe—Messrs. H. Matsumo and Yokoo.

Per str. *Glenogle*, for Foochow—Mr. McCabe.

Per str. *Iraouaddy*, for Japan—Mrs. Dinis, Messrs. Ropra, Hermann and C. Blondin.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Iraouaddy*, from Marseilles for Shanghai—Messrs. Nicol, Brotte, Tayolle, Parmentier, Lacaze, Claudier, Manu, Gerc, Seisson, Lintseng, Lin Teheng Lon and Raiamelle. From Alexandria—Sisters St. Dominique and St. Jaques. From Saigon—Messrs. Lacaze and Vautchu, 6 sailors. From Hongkong—Messrs. Mattil, Wooyeda, Claff, Lynby, Badu, Gaudu, Ducloux, Dreslen, Harris and Arhilis. For Japan—Messrs. Jubiot, Colomb, Bisset, Deléraz, Otake, Culty, Oiagawa and Dahirel.

Per str. *Saikio Maru*, from Yokohama, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Lembke, Mr. and Mrs. H. Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Endicott and 2 children, Mrs. J. W. Hall, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Langer, Misses Barney and Brunton, Messrs. Stone, Kwino, Schwabe, Tack, Yei, Yun Ya. and Ip San Sam.

Per str. *Fuhwo*, from Hankow—Messrs. Ambrose, Reid and Nun.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow—Mr. H. A. Collins.

Per str. *Tsinan*, from Hongkong—Dr. Devonport.

Per str. *Peking*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Faslini, Nils Möller and 2 sons.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Mr. Nazer.

Per str. *Kwanglee*, from Hongkong—Mrs. H. Duncan, and Mr. Gande.

Per str. *Haean*, from Chefoo—Mr. and Miss Fuller.

Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Mr. Bushby.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Swatow and Amoy—Mr. and Mrs. Seebery.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		WIND.		Hygrom.		Therm.		Initiale.
	10 A.M.	Atmos. Therm.	Direction.	Force.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Dec. 21	30.48	36.0	N.W.	2	36.0	35.0	44.0	33.0	F.
22	30.44	45.0	E.N.E.	4	45.0	43.9	46.0	34.5	O.
23	30.30	46.0	Z.	0	46.0	45.0	48.0	37.0	R.
24	30.30	49.0	N.W.	2	40.0	38.0	48.0	36.0	B.
25	30.30	42.5	E.N.E.	3	42.5	39.0	45.5	35.5	B.
26	30.35	40.0	N.W.	3	40.0	37.0	48.0	36.0	B.
27	30.43	37.0	..	1	37.0	34.0	47.0	32.0	F.

EXPLANATION.

Initiale:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull); r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12; estimated.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, 27 DEC., 1889.

THE last number of the *China Overland Trade Report* has a short leading article on the stringency in the money market in China and Hongkong, and to some extent in the Straits Settlements, this autumn. It attributes the tightness of money in Hongkong to the large amount sunk in public companies which have not begun to make any return, and to the action of the ex-Viceroy of the Two Kuang, Chang Chih-tung, who had to collect some eight or million taels in order to turn over the provincial treasury

balance to his successor in hard sycee. Then to the loss incurred by the Hongkong Bank at Lyons is attributed the decline in Bank shares which caused a partial crisis in the Hongkong share market, and several of the large banks were forced out shortly before the depression of the market on the Friday night of the 19th. The *Report* says that the confidence in Hongkong, which is strengthened by the establishment in London of the new Trust and Loan Company, which "will soon bring its capital to the relief of the Far East." It considers that the new company "has here a good field for the employment of its money at remunerative rates of interest. Whilst in England the London County Council can obtain as much money as it desires at less than 3 per cent., in the Far East the bank rate is 7 per cent., and mortgages cannot now be effected at less than 7 to 8 per cent. on best securities."

Our contemporary seems, as is very often done, to have confused tightness of money in the market, which means a restriction of credit, with actual scarcity of sycee. The action of Chang Chih-tung caused a scarcity of sycee in Hongkong, as that of the Viceroy Tseng Kuochuan did in Shanghai, but the large sums sunk in public companies did not necessarily withdraw money from Hongkong, but only transferred it from the pockets of the allottees of shares to the companies' bankers, the greater part of it being merely a paper transfer. The various planting companies in North Borneo took some hard money away from Hongkong, but not enough to make an appreciable difference to the market. In Singapore the tightness was partly due to the imports of silver from Japan having been less than usual, as there the money actually taken away to the mines only amounted altogether to a moderate sum, and much of that came back to Singapore to pay for stores of all kinds. Our contemporary seems also to have written rather hurriedly about the new Trust and Loan Company. The "large capital" which the company is to bring to the relief of the Far East of Asia is only nominal. The paid-up capital is to be only £125,000, and it is obvious from this that the directors are not contemplating competing with the established banks in the loan business. It looks very good business to borrow money at 3 per cent. (5 would be nearer the mark) in London and lend it out

in China at 7 or 8; but unfortunately the money has to be borrowed in London in gold and lent in the East in silver; and out of the difference in the interest has to come the provision for a farther fall in the white metal. The new Trust and Loan Company hopes to make the large profits which the buyers of founders' shares at £100 expect, out of starting and financing other companies here, not out of loan business. It is very well to attribute the stock exchange crisis in Hongkong to the local bank's loss at Lyons; one cause is as good as another; stocks had been run up so absurdly that a smash was certain, and the reported depreciation of thirteen millions in the value of shares in the Hongkong companies in the last four months, on paper, makes no difference to the actual stock of silver. The share crisis and the scarcity of silver in Hongkong happened to be concurrent, but the former does not seem to have any more connection with the latter than the latter has with the Hongkong Bank's loss at Lyons.

We have already mentioned H.E. Tseng Kuo-chuan's action as one of the causes of the recent scarcity of sycee here, which was marked by serious advances in the rate of native interest, which would have been still higher, but for the anxiety of the native banks not to precipitate a commercial crisis among the native merchants. Another cause was the fact, a most unusual one, that this year the balance of trade with Tientsin was in favour of that port. The rule is that the imports into Tientsin are so much more valuable than the exports, that that port has to make considerable remittances in the autumn to Shanghai. This was reversed this year; the demand for foreign manufactures in Tientsin was considerably smaller than usual, while the exports of northern produce were large, and the result was that Tientsin had to receive sycee from this, instead of sending it down here. The unusually large purchases of silk here this autumn, the proceeds of which went into the country, helped to make sycee more scarce. The scarcity is now altogether a thing of the past, large quantities of silver having been imported, and native interest yesterday was down to below the equivalent of 2½ per cent. per annum.

The rise in exchange, i.e., in the gold value of silver, has been also concurrent with the scarcity of silver, and may have slightly influenced it; that is, it may have made banks less inclined to order silver by wire, which they might have to sell, when it got here, at a loss. One of the chief causes of the rise is supposed to have been the purchase of a large quantity, amounting it is said to a value of £1,600,000, by the English mint, which makes such an enormous profit on all the silver it coins, that it can afford to raise the market on itself. It is now supposed to have concluded its purchases, and there is much probability that soon after China New Year, or perhaps before, there will be a tumble

in rates. The rise in rates has not been due to any scarcity of silver, as the figures given by Messrs. Pixley and Abell, in their circular of 14th November, shew. The total export of silver this and last year to 14th November was:—

	India.	China.	Straits.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1888	3,634,252	319,121	483,005	4,436,378
1889	5,371,934	300,189	1,320,474	6,922,597

While the total export for 1888 was only:—

4,348,529	319,121	661,527	5,329,177
-----------	---------	---------	-----------

which shews a very strong demand for India and the Straits, and a slight diminution in the export to China. The total export to the East to date is thus more than fifty per cent. above last year's to the same date, and in eleven years there have only been two in which the total export for the year was larger than the export to 14th November this year. Silver producers must be glad to see that the East can go on absorbing these large quantities of their metal.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 16th November arrived here yesterday, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Iraoudy*.

The English mail of 22nd November arrived here this afternoon, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Oriental*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Ganges*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

A STEAMER LOST.

London, 19th December.

The *Gaw Quan Sia* has been sunk by collision in the Channel. All lives saved.

[The *Gaw Quan Sia* was a steamer of 1,607 tons net register, built at Glasgow in 1872, and supplied with new engines and boilers of 190 nominal horse-power in 1888. She was classed 100 A 1 at Lloyd's and owned by Mr. T. Cuthbertson of West Hartlepool. She was previously known as the *Valencia* and *Walmer Castle*. She was on her way from Singapore to Hamburg and London. —Ed.]

A BAD BUSINESS.

London, 20th December.

At the instance of the Treasury a summons has been issued against a prominent solicitor and two others for conspiring to defeat justice in assisting the escape of prominent offenders in the Cleveland Street scandal.

A SUBMARINE SUCCESS.

London, 22nd December.

The trials of the submarine vessel at Toulon have been made with great success. She steers perfectly and passes easily beneath an ironclad.

A WARNING TO PORTUGAL.

London, 23rd December.

Lord Salisbury has sent a vigorous note to Portugal demanding that she shall repudiate Major Pinto's action and agree to the resumption of the *status quo*. The *Raleigh*, *Curagoa* and *Brisk* have been ordered to Delagoa Bay.

BRAZIL UNSETTLED.

There are signs of discontent at Rio.

BRAZIL MORE UNSETTLED.

London, 24th December.

The *Times* publishes a report that Brazil is in a state of anarchy, resembling France under the Commune.

REASON RETURNS.

The Portuguese Press is more moderate on the African question.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE N.-C. DAILY NEWS.
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE NEW JAPANESE CABINET.

Yokohama, 25th Dec.

The new Cabinet is constituted as follows:—

Minister President of State and Minister for Home Affairs	Count Yamagata.
„ for Foreign Affairs	Viscount Aoki.
„ of Communications	*Count Goto.
„ of War	*Viscount Oyama.
„ of Agriculture and Commerce	Mr. Yuwamura Michitoshi.
„ of Marine	*Count Saigo.
„ of Finance	*Count Matsukata.
„ of Education	*V'count Enomoto.
„ of Justice	*Count Yamada.
President of the Privy Council	Count Oki.

[Count Yamagata who was Minister for Home Affairs in the last Cabinet, retains his portfolio while assuming the post of Premier. Viscount Aoki was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs in Count Kuroda's administration and was formerly Japanese Ambassador at Berlin. Mr. Yuwamura Michitoshi, who, like Viscount Aoki, is new to Cabinet rank, was in the last administration Vice-Minister of the department over which he now presides, and has held rank as Governor of the province of Hokkaido. Count Oki was President of the Senate. Count Goto, Viscount Oyama, Count Saigo, Count Matsukata, Viscount Enomoto, and Count Yamada, whose names are marked above with an asterisk, occupied their respective positions in the last Cabinet. There are thus only four changes: Count Yamagata for Prince Sanjo at the head of affairs, Viscount Aoki at the Foreign Office in place of Count Okuma (the victim of the attempt at assassination on 18th October), Mr. Yuwamura Michitoshi in place of Count Inouye as Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and Count Oki in place of Count Ito as President of the Privy Council.—Ed.]

GERMANY.

10th December.

The Emperor of Germany, at a banquet at Frankfort, said that his whole endeavour is to make Germany powerful and respected, and that he quite sees the value of the fruits of peace which he will strive to preserve.—*Singapore Papers*.

DOM PEDRO.

Paris, 7th December.

The Emperor of Brazil has arrived at Lisbon.

FRENCH ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

8th December.

The Ninth Bureau of the Chamber of Deputies has invalidated the election of the two Boulangist Deputies, M. Laur and M. Alfred Naquet.

9th December.

The Chamber of Deputies by 311 votes to 243 has reversed the annulment of the election of M. Joffrin as Deputy for Montmartre.

THE FRENCH COLONIAL CONGRESS.

10th Decem ber.

M. Levasseur, member of the Institute, has been elected President of the National Colonial Congress.

12th December.

The Chamber of Deputies has by 447 votes to 29 annulled the decision of the Commission with reference to the votes in Cochín-China.

M. Le Myre de Vilers has been proclaimed Deputy for Cochín-China.—*Havas.*

ILLNESS OF THE SPANISH PREMIER.

Madrid, 10th December.

The President of the Council of Ministers, Senor Sagasta, is ill, and political affairs are consequently at a standstill.

THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA ILL.

The Emperor of Russia is ill.

THE EPIDEMIC.

The epidemic vulgarly called *trancezo* is spreading throughout Europe.—*Comercio.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1889.

		Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
Dec.	20	30° 0	46° 8	.....
"	21	31° 0	46° 5	.....
"	22	39° 8	48° 2	.....
"	23	43° 2	47° 0	0.16
"	24	36° 0	47° 8	.....
"	25	32° 0	50° 0	.....
"	26	36° 5	48° 2	.....

1888.

		Min.		Max.	Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.		
Dec.	20	44° 0	48° 0	.....	.....
"	21	41° 0	53° 0	.....	.....
"	22	38° 0	57° 0	.....	.....
"	23	35° 2	51° 0	.....	.....
"	24	35° 6	56° 0	.....	.....
"	25	39° 8	54° 5	.....	.....
"	26	35° 4	52° 0	.....	.....

Sicawei weather report, 20th Dec.:—Yesterday the barometer was rising all along the coast; winds were from N.E.; fresh breeze at Amoy and moderate at Foochow. The barometer was still falling at Tokio. To-day it is still rising at Shanghai. Similar weather, cold but fine, is probable, and the same wind along the coast, N.E. in the South, N. or N.W. in the North.—21st Dec.: Yesterday the barometer was rising all over the China and Japan coasts and at Vladivostok, and was steady at Manila. Winds were blowing from N., moderate or light over Japan and Manila, stronger at Vladivostok, and moderate from N.E. along the southern China coast. There is no sign of change in the weather.—On Sunday it read as follows: Since yesterday, the barometer has been falling and the fall is extending in the S. and E. Rainy weather is probable with light winds.—On Monday the report read: On Sunday the barometer was steady at all the stations along the China Coast, but rising over Japan and at Vladivostok. Last night it commenced to fall at Shanghai. The wind remained moderate from the N.E. along the coast; probably it will shift to the E. The weather is uncertain.—24th Dec.: The barometer continued falling yesterday at Shanghai, Amoy, and Hongkong. According to the telegrams it was rising at Foochow, even in the morning, which is difficult to reconcile with reports from the other stations. The centre of an area of low barometric pressure has probably passed to the north of Shanghai. To-day the barometer is gently rising and the atmosphere is becoming dry. Fine weather is probable, with moderate breezes from N. along the coast.—December 25th: Yesterday the barometer was rising at Shanghai, Amoy, and Hongkong, but falling over Japan and at Vladivostok. Moderate winds from N.E. generally prevailed. To-day the barometer is rising at Vladivostok and probably over Japan; it is unsteady at Shanghai and the weather is consequently uncertain; however fine weather is still probable, with moderate N. or N.E. winds.—26th December: Yesterday the barometer continued rising slightly at the southern stations of the coast. The unsteadiness of the barometer at Shanghai ended with a rather rapid but short fall. To-day it is

rising quickly. Winds in the north were probably the same as at Shanghai, but in the south they remained light from N.E. Moderate or fresh breezes from N. or N.E. are now probable all along the coast with cold and fine weather at Shanghai.

We hear that telegrams were received here on Sunday announcing that the steamer *Kuling* has been sold at home to the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs. There is some speculation as to whether this is in any way connected with Mr. Hobson's appointment to Ichang.

We draw special attention to the account in another column of the recent meeting of the China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, at which Dr. Faber read a paper of which so capable a judge as Dr. Jamieson remarked, that it "would prove the most important which ever appeared in the transactions of the Society."

A correspondent mentions, referring to the extremely modest scheme of the Racquet Court Committee for providing themselves with another court while they still keep in their pockets the proceeds of their present premises, that another scheme has been suggested, equally modest and practicable, which would even more completely accomplish their object, and that is, that the Municipal Council should purchase the vacant lot on the Bund in front of the Pao Shun Hong and erect a racquet court at the public expense—the use of the court to be confined to the present playing members of the Racquet Court—and that an annual appropriation be made on each Municipal budget, to meet the expenses of servants, balls, etc.

The following is the list of officers of the "Lodge Cosmopolitan" No 428, S.C., who were installed on Thursday night by Rt. Wor. Brother C. Thorne, P.D.G.M., under the auspices of the District Grand Lodge of Northern China, E.C.:—

Wor. Bro. J. W. Mielenhausen.	R.W.M.
" B. A. Clarke.	P.M.
" T. Pemberton.	P.M.
" C. J. Holland.	P.M.
" J. Bannerman.	S.W.
" R. Stahlberg.	J.W.
" Wm. Youngson.	Treasurer.
" C. M. Donaldson.	P.M. Secretary.
" A. Palmquist.	Assistant do.
" W. H. Hague.	S.D.
" J. H. Fenton.	J.D.
" A. J. Adams.	Bible Bearer.
" C. T. Benney.	Dir. of Cer.
" T. J. Hovel.	Inner Guard.
" J. T. Manley.	Banner Bearer.
" F. Kofod.	Stewards.
" H. Frudenthall.	Stewards.
" John Gould.	Tyler.

Wor. Bro. J. W. Mielenhausen, Master of the Lodge for last year, was re-elected for the ensuing year.

The following officers have been elected to serve in the Fire Brigade for 1890:—

Chief Engineer.	C. J. Ashley.
District Engineer, English Settlement.	L. Moore.
District Engineer, Hongkong.	P. A. W. Ottomeier.
District Engineer, French Concession.	C. Blondin.

A considerable number of people went off to the *Leander* on Christmas Day after service to see the decorations of the lower deck which the men had put up in honour of their Christmas dinner. They were profuse, brilliant, and tasteful, and included numberless Chinese lanterns, evergreens, mottoes, and transparencies, two transparencies of the ship herself, from one of which a salute of seven guns was fired as the company came round, being very well done. The dinner preparations were most lavish and inviting, and the men were most cordially anxious that their visitors should taste the luxuries provided. The drum and fife band headed a procession round the deck, which included two darkey cavalry-men on hobby horses, veritable horse-marines. The cheering for Captain Watson, First Lieutenant Fisher, the officers generally, and the ladies, was con-

stant and most hearty, and the *Leander* would seem to be unmistakably that ideal of the service, a "happy ship."

At the fire in the French Concession on Friday morning (20th), a godown and three houses were destroyed and two other houses partially destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown. The property belonged to Ta-kee and was not insured. The godown was full of valuable native merchandise, hides, and gunny bags, on which there was no insurance, so that the loss to the owners will be very heavy. During Friday the walls on three sides of the godown fell outwards, and four streams were played on the burning cargo inside. It would be advisable to adopt some plan whereby the firemen will be able to readily find the hydrants, which are flush with the pavement in the French Concession. If some kind of mark were put on the walls of houses opposite the fire plugs, the firemen would have no difficulty in quickly getting a supply of water.

A fire broke out shortly before 10 o'clock on Sunday night on the French Concession in an alley-way off the Rue Petit, and some thirteen houses were destroyed. The fire was caused by the upsetting of a lamp in a cotton shop and spread with remarkable rapidity to the adjoining houses. The "Deluge" Company had the first stream on and were followed by the "Torrent." As at the fire on Friday morning, much valuable time was lost in the endeavour of the firemen to find the hydrants. This could be remedied if the Fire Commission could be induced to put up some kind of indication as to the whereabouts of the water supply. Before the fire was extinguished, nine streams of water were playing on the flames.

The Skating Rink at the Philharmonia Hall was opened on the 20th and was fairly well patronised seeing that last night was mail night. Those who only went to look on had their money's worth in witnessing the various *contretemps* that occurred to some of the novices in roller-skating.

No 3 Co. S.V.C. monthly cup was competed for on Saturday last; Priv. Burtenshaw was the winner with a total score of 63 points.

An important part of Sir Michael Hicks Beach's recent speech at Bristol was omitted by Reuter. He said that "any Minister was ready to resign in order to admit the Unionist leaders into the Cabinet."

We published on the 14th Reuter's telegrams saying that the strikes were engrossing all attention in London, and were collapsing in Manchester and Salford. The Hongkong papers give what appears to be the same message in the following terms:—"The threatened strikes in London, Salford and Manchester are collapsing."

We reprint in another column from the *Japan Mail* Professor Milne's amusing account of his machine for registering the motion of railway trains.

As the *Hever* was coming in on Sunday morning, at about 4 o'clock, she collided with a junk between the Little Beacon and the Inner Lightship. The junk sank, but not before the mate of the *Hever* had rescued thirteen men from her. One of the rescued men was found asleep in his bunk and he was much surprised on being awakened to find that his craft was sinking.

While one of the C.M.S.N. Co.'s steamers was hauling in to Kinleeyuen wharf yesterday afternoon, a boat laden with baskets of oil drifted across the steamer's heaving-in line and capsized. The oil went adrift and was promptly monopolised by boatmen in the locality, while the two occupants of the boat were rescued by someone else.

The *Fuhlee*, after having had the gap in her starboard bow cleverly patched by Captains McCaslin and Roberts, was brought into the Old Dock on Wednesday and will shortly be surveyed. The difficult work of raising the vessel and bringing her into dock has been performed in a manner highly creditable to the employes of the

Tugboat Company. She has a great hole in her starboard side extending four plates downwards and couple off into the deck.

On Tuesday afternoon a stone-laden cargo boat collided with the Garden Bridge on the upper side and then sank across the piles. The police sent a man to warn other boats of the danger, but the crew of a large passenger boat on Wednesday morning, refusing to listen to the warnings given, ran on top of the sunken cargo boat, and their craft immediately filled and settled down on top of the obstruction. After some hours the passenger boat was floated and beached.

At the Mixed Court yesterday, a vendor of spurious dollars was sentenced to two months' imprisonment and then to be deported. A Chinese servant who stole a gold pin from her employer was sentenced to be locked up at the Mixed Court for a month.

A new specimen of "English as she is wrote," extracted from a letter by a Chinaman to one of his foreign superiors:—"My second daughter has born about ten days ago, it is nothing to be boast of, as Chinese customs they are general like boy than girl, but I have no slightest objections of it." A man who has not the slightest objection to having a daughter, and who nevertheless thinks it is nothing to boast of, is evidently no ordinary individual.

The great photographic chart of the night sky, which is about to be prepared by the joint labours of eleven astronomical observatories, is expected to be finished in three or four years. It will consist of several thousand celestial maps, and contain some 20,000,000 stars, reckoning those of the 14th magnitude. Among the observatories which will undertake the work are those of Mexico and Manila. The Pope has also charged an astronomer to equip a special laboratory for the purpose. Funds are still required for the creation of a central office to compare the photographs, and so forth; but these are coming in, Buenos Ayres having recently contributed £12,000 towards it.

The first four prizes in the Manila Lottery this month have fallen to the following numbers:—30,123; 16,877; 37,007; and 35,706.

The new Viceroy of the Two Kuang, Li Han-chang, is an old man, and he no doubt realises this, but he is evidently determined to die in harness for, according to the *Daily Press*, he has taken his coffin to Canton with him.

We published some months since a carefully considered opinion by Colonel Mosby that there was no law requiring consular certifications to be taken out for duty-free goods. In accordance with this opinion, Messrs. Siegfried & Brandenstein of San Francisco imported some tea from Japan without taking out certifications, and they have now sued Collector Phelps for refusing to deliver it without these documents. Colonel Mosby appeared on the 18th November for the plaintiffs before Judge Sawyer, and read an order from the Court of Claims supporting his opinion. Judgment was reserved.

Colonel Mosby's claim against the United States for fees received by him while he was Consul at Hongkong and turned over by him to his government, and the counter-claim against him of the United States, are on the calendar to be heard on appeal in the Supreme Court at Washington, on the second Monday in January next.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says that in the manifests of vessels leaving Haiphong for Hongkong will always be found boxes of dollars. This is owing to an exchange business out of which the Chinese are making a profit at the expense of France. The Mexican dollar is worth less than the French piastre, and the Chinese therefore collect the latter. Our contemporary gives the tael values of the two coins, and says the result is that when the Chinese have \$100 to pay they give 72 taels, but when they have \$100 to receive they get 78 taels.

News was received in Hongkong on the 17th by Messrs. Siemssen and Co., the charterers, of the total loss of the American ship *Reporter* on Billiton Island. The crew had arrived safely at Singapore, but no further details are given. The *Reporter* was a ship of 1,286 tons and was well known on this coast. Her commander was Captain Spalding. She left Hongkong on the 21st November for New York with a general cargo. The insurance, we believe, will chiefly fall on home offices.—*Daily Press*.

A Japanese vernacular paper states that Count Okuma, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who has just recovered from the attempt to assassinate him, tendered his resignation on the 14th.

The *Japan Mail* says, in reference to Count Okuma's resignation:—Count Okuma, it is true, retires from office maimed and without having accomplished the work he undertook. But has he failed in the true sense of the term? Assuredly not. Like his able predecessor, Count Inouye, he has brought his country many steps nearer to the satisfaction of her just ambition, and though another may ultimately reap the harvest, history will recognise that by these two great men the seed was sown. We shall not discuss here the one great cause that dashed the cup of success from Count Okuma's lips. It is enough to say that as a Foreign Minister his record will bear the closest inspection. He has taught his countrymen what can be won by courage and firmness, and he has taught foreigners to respect and admire Japanese statesmanship. These are not small achievements, nor will they be fruitless. If they have cost Count Okuma very dear, he may be sure that time will repay him, and that the recognition which indirect agencies have conspired to withhold, will be accorded to him in full measure hereafter.

The report of the Hongkong High Level Tramways Company, Limited, for the year ended 30th November last shews total receipts for the year, \$20,930.35, and total expenses, \$21,321.26. This unfavourable result is due to the great storm in May last, the loss by which the general managers estimate as under:—

Suspense account.....	\$7,949.25
Loss of traffic	7,000.00
Estimated farther expenses..	1,000.00

or about \$16,000 in all. "Had it not been for this unfortunate occurrence," they say, "the result of the year's working would have been satisfactory."

The *Daily Press* says:—Dr. J. G. Kerr, of Canton Hospital, and Dr. E. P. Thwing, professor of Mental Diseases in N. J. Medical College, U.S.A., had an interview on Friday with the officers of the Tung Wa Hospital with reference to the Insane Hospital proposed by Dr. Kerr, in the founding of which he has secured the aid of several foreigners who have pledged several hundred dollars with the hope that the Chinese will furnish a suitable building, where to some extent there may be introduced the grading of curables as well as the custody and care of incurables. An interview has also been had with influential citizens of Canton and the time seems opportune for the long delayed consummation of this most humane and beneficent endeavour.

Mr. A. G. Wise gave judgment in Hongkong on the 16th in the case of *Ramjahn v. Brandt*. As regards the claim of \$475 he found for the defendant, but in the claim for \$100, for brokerage, he found for the plaintiff, with costs.

The commission appointed in Hongkong in April last to consider the question of an increase to the salaries of public officers has come to some rather interesting conclusions. It finds that in the last ten years the cost of living in Hongkong has increased 20 per cent. for Europeans and 10 per cent. for Chinese, clothing being the only thing which is cheaper now. Rent has increased from 100 to 150 per cent. for European and 100 per cent. for Chinese

houses. Servants' wages have increased 10 to 15 per cent. Imported articles have risen in proportion to the fall in exchange. (This must be inaccurate, or what becomes of the complaint that all prices have fallen at home in consequence of the appreciation of gold?) The cost of medical attendance has doubled. The decreasing purchasing power of the dollar is severely felt by officers who have families to maintain or educate in England. The Committee propose in effect that salaries generally should be raised to an amount in current dollars equivalent to their original sterling value taking the dollar at 4s. 2d., while officials domiciled in the Colony (non-Europeans) should receive an advance of 20 per cent. The report is signed by Messrs. Fielding Clarke (Chief Justice), Ryrie, Wong Shing, Chater, Keswick and Layton. In an appendix the Committee say that the superior English officials may reasonably expect—

- (a.) to live in comfort (while forced to reside in a hot and enervating climate from which their health must inevitably suffer.)
- (b.) to be able to take advantage of their leave when due (i.e. to defray the cost of their passages.)
- (c.) when 30 years of age to marry, and
- (d.) to be in a position to send their children to England and maintain them there.
- (e.) to be able to insure their lives, and
- (f.) to save sufficient to enable them on retirement to live in a certain degree of comfort for which their pensions would in themselves be insufficient.

The libel case, *Fraser Smith v. Brandt*, was tried at the criminal sessions, Hongkong, on the 20th, before Mr. Fielding Clarke, Acting Chief Justice. Mr. Philippo appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Brandt defended himself, with the assistance of Mr. Denny. The balance of the finding was in Mr. Brandt's favour, as the following extract from the *Daily Press* shews:—

The jury found by a majority of five to two that the letter was written without malice; by a majority of four to three that it was true in substance and in fact; by a majority of four to three that publication was justifiable; and unanimously that publication was not for the public benefit.

His Lordship said that on the first finding he would enter a verdict of not guilty and the defendant would be discharged. He asked the counsel for the prosecution whether he desired a verdict or not on the second question.

Mr. Philippo replied in the affirmative.

His Lordship said in that case he thought there must be a finding in favour of the prosecution, because the whole plea had not been established.

Mr. Philippo—As the plea of justification is not upheld, will your lordship give costs?

His Lordship said the costs were dealt with by the Ordinance, but he thought the prosecution were entitled to recover costs on the plea of justification, which would not amount to much.

Mr. Brandt said he thought he was entitled to his costs.

His Lordship—Yes, I think you are entitled to the general costs.

We are obliged to summarise very briefly the news in the Hongkong papers. The *Chas. G. Wilson* had arrived from Ponape, bringing the crew of the coal-laden American barque *John M. Clerk*, which was wrecked while on her way from New South Wales to Shanghai.—They did not know at first in Hongkong that it was influenza which was spreading over Europe.—The *Cockchafer* left Hongkong on the 19th with the homeward pennant flying.—In the Regatta at Hongkong, on the second day, the 20th, the English won the international fours by a good length and a half, the betting at the start being 5 to 1 on the Scotch.—Lucio Pereira de Campos, who was brought back from Japan, was found guilty on the 21st of forging and uttering a cheque, and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

Miscellaneous Articles.

CHRISTMAS.

23rd Dec.

CHRISTMAS, which at home is chiefly a season of delight to the young, the welcome accorded to it by the old being for many reasons somewhat fictitious, is welcomed by all ages in Shanghai. Holidays are rare here, but we really get one or two in Christmas week, and the Christmas bills, which are supposed to make the season a terror to householders at home, are not any worse here at the end of December than at the end of any other month. At home the grown-up man dreads with justice the consequences of the feasting that custom enjoins at Christmas; here we live so well all the year round, that there is nothing on the Christmas table to specially appal us. Last, but not least, the family gatherings which look so inviting in the pictures in 'Christmas numbers,' but which are such Dead Sea apples in reality, are impracticable here. The ordinary man at home, whatever appearance of jollity he may put on, hates Christmas and is delighted when it is over: here he can have no possible reason for hating it, and may find plenty of reasons for enjoying it.

To most of us Christmas is much more the end of the year than the 31st of December is, and we naturally look back to consider how the past twelve months have treated us. Those of us who are Englishmen may congratulate ourselves that our country has gained. Trade has improved and is improving. The boundaries of the Empire have been widened, and steps are still being taken for its consolidation. The confession of Pigott has removed a foul suspicion from the fame of one section of the members of the House of Commons. The Queen's government has been well carried on, and the ministry is still as firmly seated in the saddle, while the action of the classes in the dock strike has done something to bridge the gulf, which was never a very deep one, between rich and poor in London. If we are Americans, we may fairly rejoice in the continued and unparalleled growth of population and wealth; if we are Republicans we are pleased with the knowledge that our party is in power again; if we are Democrats, we can comfort ourselves with the thought that the recent gains in the State elections are an indication that our party will return to power in 1893. Frenchmen have special reasons to be satisfied with the crucial year of the centenary of the fall of the Bastille. Their great exhibition has passed off with a magnificent success that was hoped for, if hardly expected. The general election has proved how rightly those judged who never despaired of the fortunes of the Republic; and the collapse of Boulangerism has removed a danger which though never impressive, might have become so from the excitability of the Paris mob. Germans

have every reason to regard 1889 as a good year. Their indefatigable young Emperor has won golden opinions wherever he has gone, and he has been always travelling. The disagreements between himself and his English relatives have passed away, his country is beginning to make a figure as a colonising power, and if Germania has always to stand girt with her sword, there is less prospect than there has been for many years that that sword will have shortly to be drawn. Alexander III is devoting himself to the removal of the great blot on Russia's fair fame, the system of exile to Siberia. The Nihilist and Pan Slavist agitations have not succeeded in driving him to seek in foreign war an antidote to internal dissension. Italy continues to consolidate her unity, and bears uncomplainingly the weight of the heavy taxation necessitated by her military and naval preparations, and her bickerings with France have not resulted in any overt acts of unfriendliness. The melancholy suicide of his only son has given a sad blow to the Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, but his personal popularity has enabled him to keep together his heterogeneous empire. The smaller countries of Europe have gone quietly on, one of them, Portugal, having to lament the loss of a much respected King; and monarchy has suffered another gentle shock in the amicable disappearance of the only Empire in the New World.

China continues to advance, if not as fast as we could wish. The Emperor has assumed the reins of power and the fetters of matrimony quietly and in due course, and the way in which the untoward accidents in Peking that have marked his accession have been received proves that superstition is not so vital a force in China as it has been often represented to be. Railways have come within measurable distance of construction; and the strenuous attempt that has been made to get the Telegraph Convention ratified has met again with the failure it merited; nor, from what we can learn, is there much likelihood of Mr. Coumany, at least, interesting himself in it farther. Personally or by his Ministers the young Emperor of China has shewn and continues to shew an unwonted interest in the government of his empire, and a determination to promote reforms which promises well for the future.

Shanghai has not had a bad year all round. The wrecking of the Racquet Court will always be a blot on 1889; it was to be hoped that the precedent of the Fives Court would not have had such an imitation. The visit of the Hongkong cricketers has made the year memorable. The municipal history has been enlivened by the discussions as to the Garden Bridge, and there are who assert that the question is to be finally settled by a side-wind, as the steam-roller that has been ordered will have to be confined to Hongkew unless a new bridge is built. The year is also mark-

ed by the completion of the handsomest public building—that behind the Racquet Court—that the municipality has ever yet undertaken in Shanghai. The local share list and the building that is going on all round will shew that it has not been an unprosperous year as far as business is concerned.

Personally, no doubt, there is none of us that has not had his troubles,—and his compensations. But whatever his troubles have been, he has this compensation in Shanghai, that he may rely on receiving from his fellows a hearty sympathy and kindness, an unvarying disposition to look with the most lenient and helpful eye on his mistakes and misfortunes, that are not always found in small communities. He may sometimes feel inclined to join in the bitter retrospect of Sir Alfred Lyall's Anglo-Indian:—

"Let him cry, as thy blue devils seize him,
O step-mother, careless as Fate,
He may strive from thy bonds to release him,
Thou hast passed him his sentence—Too Late;
He has found what a blunder his youth is,
His prime what a struggle, and yet
Has to learn of old age what the truth is
In the Land of Regret."

But he must own that there is no place where there is more genuine friendliness to all who deserve it at all, than Shanghai.

A SAN FRANCISCO ACCOUNT
OF RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

24th Dec.

So benighted are we at this jumping-off place, Shanghai, and so badly are we kept informed of what is passing even in the empire which we irritate by our presence, that until we read the *San Francisco Chronicle* of the 10th of November last, and study its Railway map of China, we actually do not know the progress that the iron way has made in the country. We might be excused—considering the distances that separate us from Canton, Peking, and Newchwang, and the difficulties of communication with these out-of-the-way places—for not knowing that there are already railways completed between Canton and Fatsan (which it appears is on the coast of Kuangtung and nearly opposite Hongkong), Newchwang and Moukden, and Peking and Tientsin; but nothing can account for our ignorance of the fact that there are already completed lines of railway between Shanghai and Hangchow and Shanghai and Soochow. It can only be the ineradicable conservatism of the cloth that induces the missionaries and dignitaries of the churches who are constantly travelling between these points to continue to use native boats, with the aid at times of a helpful steam-launch, and entirely ignore the more comfortable and speedy train. Lest our readers should think that we are exaggerating the extent of the information given by the *Chronicle* on this momentous subject, we reproduce its own words. It has been giving a fairly accurate account of the *genesis* of the

Kaiping line, which, curiously enough, does not appear on its map at all, Kaiping itself being entirely forgotten by the engraver, although the *Chronicle* tells its readers that it is "shewn on the accompanying map." After the description of the "first railroad in China"—and this of itself must puzzle the reader, who has been previously, and correctly, told that "the first road constructed in China was from Shanghai to the little seaport town of Woosung, ten miles to the north"—the *Chronicle* says:

"The Government ignored the existence of the road, but Li Hung-chang did not rest. He preached the strategic, political and economical importance of railroads until he persuaded the Government not only to sanction their introduction on principle, but even to begin their construction. The first one to be constructed under governmental authorization was that from Peking to its port of Tientsin, nearly sixty miles distant, this being afterwards extended a few miles farther east until it reached the seaboard at Taku.

"Other short lines followed. One was built from the treaty port of Newchwang in the extreme northern portion of Leao-Tong, thirty-five miles to the capital, Moukden, celebrated for its large trade and as being the last residence of the Manchoo sovereigns before the conquest of China. Another from Shanghai, a treaty port, to Hangchow, another treaty port situated at the southern terminus of the Grand Canal, and a thriving town of about 600,000 inhabitants. Another from Shanghai westward to Suchau, a city of 1,000,000 population, situated on the canal. It has an extensive trade and is celebrated throughout China for the splendour of its buildings and the beauty of its terraces and gardens. Lastly, there is another from Canton, six miles out to Fatsan, an iron-working town which has been called the 'Birmingham of China.'"

After such a magnificent stretch of imagination as this is, we cannot be surprised at the statement that Moukden, Hangchow, Soochow, and Fatsan, are nearly all treaty ports; but it a little upsets the ideas we have been holding to read that Li Hung-chang "has been strenuous in presenting the advantages, if not the necessity" of the construction of the great inter-provincial railroad, "to connect northern China with central and southern China, with Peking as the northern terminus, Hankow as the central and Canton as the southern terminus." Our own impression has been all along that this was Chang Chih-tung's idea and that Li Hung-chang only accepted it in order that railways should not be postponed altogether. Following on this comes an extraordinary jumble of what the writer has evidently read in our columns with his own ideas. We explained some time since that the real opposition to Li Hung-chang's wish to continue the existing railway to Peking came

from the officials who make a profit out of the carriage of rice to the capital. The *Chronicle*, having put down the Tientsin-Peking line as already completed, had to fit in this opposition somewhere else, and this is how it is done:—

"On August 26th an imperial decree was issued authorising the construction of the "Great Western Railroad" from Peking to Hankow, a distance of something over 600 miles, or as far as from San Francisco to Indio, 100 miles south of Los Angeles. It had been the Viceroy's idea to carry the road round in a sweep to Hangchow, the city mentioned as being at the southern head of the great canal, but he had found it impossible to overcome the opposition of the officials who are engaged in the transport of the official rice, and who get their living from the very large perquisites on the transport by water of this commodity. It should be understood that the cost to the Government of laying a pound of rice down in Peking from Shanghai by the present system is from three to four times what a merchant can lay it down for, the excess going into the official pockets. The transport of the rice by the proposed railroad would largely reduce the cost, and consequently the perquisites of the officials, and hence the opposition. Seeing this, Li gave up the Hangchow idea and at once closed with the Peking-Hankow concession. The wily Viceroy has not given up the extension idea, however, and it is an open secret in China that not only will Hangchow or Shanghai be made the middle coast terminus, but that the main trunk will be carried southward from Hankow to Canton."

We know that things are very topsyturvy in China, but one would think it would puzzle even a Pacific Slope journalist to construct a trunk railway with four or five terminuses: a northern one at Peking, a central one at Hankow, a southern one at Canton, and a "middle coast" one or two at Hangchow or Shanghai. But we see farther on that it can only be very lately that the writer has emerged from the popular fog about China, and there is still some of it in his brain; he says, "Most people are accustomed to think of Peking as being somewhere near Shanghai, or at least as having a central position." This is *à propos* of the want of control exercised by Peking over the remoter provinces owing to the difficulty of communication, of which the writer gives a very pertinent illustration:—"The famous Taiping rebellion may be given as an instance of this. It will be seen by reference to the map that Taiping is to the extreme southwest, while Peking is to the extreme northwest, so that there are more than 2,000 miles between them. This distance, if covered by railroad, means only a few days from headquarters, but when the means of communication are limited to roads and paths in poor repair, the scene of disturbance is practically removed from anything like control."

It must be a little irritating to the student of Chinese history who thus learns for the first time that the Taiping rebellion took its name from a town in the extreme southwest, to find that the town is not on the map at all. After this flight of imagination the writer returns to the sober facts which he has gathered from our columns as to the construction of the line between Peking and Hankow; and winds up by telling the bridge-builders of San Francisco that they will have a chance of competing for the construction of the bridge that will be required over the Yellow River. Full of errors as the article is, it yet shews the more extended interest that is taken in China matters abroad.

Review.

THE FRENCH MAIL PAPERS.

As the space which we can devote to our usual comments on the week's papers received by the mail is limited this morning, it is perhaps fortunate that there is not much in those papers to comment on. The speech of Lord Salisbury at the Guildhall, London, was perhaps the most important event, the Premier's deliverance at the Lord Mayor's banquet being always the most notable speech of the autumn unless, as rarely happens, Parliament is enjoying an autumn session. Lord Salisbury's speech was generally of an optimistic turn; as to the Continent, the barometer was distinctly rising, as it ought to be with every Emperor, King, President, and Prime Minister repeating his conviction that the dearest wish of his heart, and the overpowering interest of his country, is Peace. At home trade continued to improve, but it was necessary to warn Labour that there was danger to itself as well as the rest of society in too virulent an opposition to Capital. In Egypt, England could but maintain the *status quo*. But it was on Africa more than any other part of the world that the attention of the Foreign Ministers was fixed. The *St. James's* says:—

It was a statement almost startling in its unexpectedness, with which Lord Salisbury began his remarks on foreign affairs on Saturday. "The matters with which, on the present surface of the world, we are most concerned, strange to say, are the interests not of Europe, but of Africa. Africa is the subject which occupies Foreign Offices more than any other. All nations are showing a generous rivalry in their desire to make efforts for the civilisation of that continent, so long neglected; and this country has not been behind in the race. Three great associations have recently been formed for the purpose of pushing forward the civilisation of Africa, and they have started on their mission with every prospect of success. But the matter, undoubtedly, in respect to Africa which interests Englishmen the most is the question how far we shall be able to suppress the Slave Trade which has so long disgraced it." With submission to the Prime Minister, we venture to think that he hardly gauges the feelings of his fellow-countrymen quite accurately. The Slave Trade? Yes, every Englishman has an interest, at once sentimental, religious, and historical in the suppression of that infamous traffic; every Englishman hopes that something more than strong words and eliding "resolutions" will come out of the Brussels Conference. But when they think of foreign affairs, and even of African affairs, we fancy it is not the Slave Trade which chiefly occupies the thoughts of Englishmen. They think about their own concerns and their own interests—about the possibility of preserving for themselves an adequate share in the commerce and industry of the Dark Continent, about the dangerous and unfortunate position in Egypt into which Mr. Gladstone muddled us, and the mode in which it can be maintained without further injury to our honour and prestige.

The first article in the *Saturday* is headed "Africa" and that journal rejoices at the charter being granted to the great English Company which is to organise Zambesia, and at Mr. H. H. Johnston's successes further north. The telegrams which we publish this morning shew that Portugal is not to be allowed to undo Mr. Johnston's work, and we are glad to see that Lord Salisbury has determined to be firm on the question; it requires some pluck for a great power to hazard the reproach that it is trying to bully a little power. The *St. James's* has an apposite article on "The Portuguese Danger in South East Africa," illustrated by one of the worst maps ever perpetrated in these inartistic days of hurried "process" work. It tells us that "Lord Salisbury has repeatedly declared that this country could not for a moment admit that there was any justice in the claims of Portugal to jurisdiction in the interior of South Central Africa. . . . In Nyassaland"—the whole of which Major Pinto expressed his intention of conquering—"all that has been accomplished for civilisation has been done at the expense of British blood and treasure; and the fruits of many years' toil in the face of unexampled dangers are not likely to be surrendered to Portugal." Portugal's recent parcelling out of the Zambesi country into districts, with separate military commands in each of them, is a direct challenge to England:—

In the official decrees reference is made to the former stations of Portugal in those regions, the ruins of some of them having been visited by Lieutenant Cordon and his party. Undoubtedly two centuries and more ago Portugal had many settlements along the Zambesi, notably at Zumbo; but for many years the country has relapsed into utter barbarism. As Livingstone wrote twenty-six years ago, apart from a few crumbling ruins all traces of the Portuguese in the middle course of the Zambesi had vanished. "Not a single art, save that of distilling spirits by means of a gun-barrel has ever been learned from the stranger who first planted the belief that man may sell his brother men—a belief which is not of native origin, for it is not found except in the track of the Portuguese." On such flimsy foundations are Portuguese pretensions built; and it remains to be seen what action the Imperial Government will take to vindicate the rights granted to a company of English "merchant-adventurers" under the Queen's sign-manual. One thing is certain, and that is that the South Africa Company must lose no time in getting to work and establishing cordial relations with the African Lakes Company, who have done so much to develop trade on the banks of the Shire River and Lake Nyassa. There is nothing in the charter granted to Mr. Cecil Rhodes and his companions to prevent them crossing the Zambesi; and it is not to be supposed that this eleventh-hour action of the Lisbon authorities will be allowed to stand in its way. If it does, then the trade of the rich district around Lake Tanganika will either have to pass through German or Portuguese territory before it can reach the European market. The whole of this district was a *terra incognita* before the labours of Livingstone, and of his followers nearly all have been of English nationality.

The Jewish papers write enthusiastically about the succession of Sir Henry Isaacs to the Lord Mayoralty, and the following extract from the *Jewish Chronicle* is worth reproducing:—

We are still near the days when, even in England, the Jew was denied the full rights of citizenship. It is only thirty years since the battle for Jewish liberties, in which the City of London ranged itself early by the side of Baron Lionel de Rothschild, was finally won. And yet how rapid are the strides which Jewish progress has made in that brief interval! The mere fact that the election of a Jew to the Mayoralty is hardly regarded as anything more than an ordinary incident shows how quickly events have marched. The coincidences which have been pointed out in connection with the event heightened its significance. It is just seven hundred years since the terrible massacre took place at the

coronation of Richard I., which served as the prelude to the total expulsion of the Jews a century later. The massacre commenced almost on the very spot where, a fortnight ago, the Lord Chancellor received the Lord Mayor Elect, and conveyed to him the Sovereign's approval of his election. The year 1890, in which the greater part of Sir Henry Isaacs's Mayoralty will fall, will complete the sixth century which has elapsed since the Jews were hounded out of England, bag and baggage. The imagination must be dull indeed that is not stirred by the contrast. Modern justice and morality have triumphed over mediæval bigotry; and the indestructible energy of the Jewish race has renewed its youth. Yesterday reviled and accursed, to-day venerated and honoured by the greatest in the land. Yesterday pariahs, driven out of England with contumely; to-day sitting in the seat of England's rulers, and meting out justice to her people! Let us thank God for it on our knees—we who are reaping the bright harvest which our fathers sowed in tears.

John W. Laurie, who has been convicted and sentenced to be hung for the murder of Mr. Rose in Arran, might possibly, it appears, have got off if he had said that Mr. Rose was killed by an accidental fall, and that he then robbed the body. But his defence was complete ignorance of the mode of Mr. Rose's death, and this was so incredible that the majority of the jury found him guilty of murder.

The French Chambers were opened on the 12th of November, and the *Daily News* of the next day says:—

The French Chambers met yesterday, and amid perfect calm. The threatened Boulangist demonstration was, in the words of our correspondent, a ludicrous failure. It is to be resumed when the Chamber discusses the question of the election of M. Joffrin, or rather the disqualification of General Boulanger, his opponent. The General, it is well known, had a majority of votes, but the returning officer declined to count them as valid, the candidate being disqualified by the sentence of the High Court, and gave the election to M. Joffrin, the next on the list. It is contended, and plausibly, that the Chamber alone can exercise this right, and that the sole duty of the returning officer is to count the votes and give in the name of the person who has received the highest number of them. As the General's election must be invalidated in any case, the ultimate proceeding can only have the importance attaching to a point of form. The Deputies meet under circumstances of extraordinary interest. There is not only a new Chamber, but a new departure in politics. In what manner is the will of France as expressed in the late elections to be carried out? It is now understood that there will be no fusion of parties, no coalition—perhaps the French have learnt wisdom from our own experience in that line. France has signified her desire for a Moderate Government, and this was at first thought to betoken a coalition among the Moderates of all shades, Republican and Monarchical. There is to be no such coalition, but there may be effective co-operation for all that.

As to the constitution of the Chamber of Deputies, the following from the *Spectator* is interesting:—

We wonder if France really likes the government of "plain men." She has certainly got it. The new *couches sociales*, whose arrival at power Gambetta predicted, are not only in possession of all ultimate power, as they also are in England, but in possession of all direct authority too. Nothing is more noteworthy in the present position of France than the almost entire disappearance from public life of her historic names, of families illustrious for their services, and of men of the literary class. The whole government is in the hands of the kind of men who in England sit on Boards of Directors, the President himself being the single one among them whose name was previously familiar to the outside world. His name is historical, though the history be only that of a single century, and though he is an engineer; but those of his colleagues or subordinates, whichever they are, one would only expect to find among the lists of respectable mercantile or professional firms. Two

at least of the most powerful among them belong, indeed, to a lower grade than that, one having been a little watchmaker and one a "traveller," or, in vulgar speech, a "bag-man." In the new Chamber, the majority is made up of the same class. There are great names among the Reactionaries, and, curiously enough, one or two among the Extreme Radicals; but the Republicans have sent up, as a rule, unknown local personages, sensible, and moderate, but without distinction of any kind. The abolition of *scrutin de liste* has been fatal even to journalists, who have been expelled by the score, and four hundred at least of the Deputies may, except for personal qualities as yet unrevealed, be fairly declared by historians, as well as by "society," to be nobodies. Outside the Ministry and the Chamber, no one can be said to stand high before the country.

"The Pleasures of Baldness" is an amusing article in the *Saturday*, and another shewing that the New Toryism of the Duke of Marlborough, "when reduced to plain terms, means incitement of the masses to more class hatred and more class robbery." In "The Prince of Wales in Egypt" we are justly reminded that the result of our occupation of Egypt "is a great credit and triumph to those directly concerned in bringing it about, and is a feather in England's cap such as no nation in Europe for many years has earned the right to wear." The principal cartoon in *Punch* is a very good one; Mr. Gladstone with a sort of pigs-in-clover puzzle, the centre being a shanrock, labelled "Home Rule"; "I think I shall get 'em all in,—in time!" says the G. O. M., and the portrait of him is an admirable one. The sway of these puzzles at the moment over English society is shewn in Du Maurier's picture that faces the cartoon. Mr. Balfour is very good, too, as the puzzle-headed person this week. The *Pall Mall's* is not a very political number. The interview with Linley Sambourne is good; there is another page of Barnum pictures, which seem to be inexhaustible, and the sketches of "Whitechapel in Wales" are many of them very good.

Outports.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

On Thursday the 19th instant, the foundation stone of H.B.M.'s new Consulate, to replace that destroyed during the riots last February, was laid in the presence of almost the entire foreign community, and in brilliant weather. Previous to the ceremony about thirty gentlemen assembled, by request, at the temporary Consulate on the Bund, where, after drinking success to the new building, a parchment roll was subscribed, which was subsequently, together with coins of the present year as well as those recovered from the previous foundations, newspapers, and plans, deposited in a box prepared for the purpose, in the cavity under the stone. The company then proceeded to the Consulate Hill where the actual function was completed by Mr. L. C. Hopkins, Acting Consul.

Having been duly called on by Mr. Collins, of H.M. Office of Works, and having prepared the mortar with a handsome trowel, suitably inscribed, presented for the occasion by Mr. F. J. Marshall, H. M. Surveyor of Works, Mr. Hopkins, after the lowering of the stone into position, and the simultaneous hoisting of the Union Jack, proceeded with the usual orthodox tests to declare it well and truly laid, and finally called for three cheers for H.M. the Queen and the prosperity of the new buildings, which were enthusiastically accorded.

Mr. Hopkins subsequently entertained a number of guests at a sumptuous tiffin, at the conclusion of which the toast of H.M. the Queen was honoured, and General

Jones, U.S. Consul, having briefly but felicitously proposed the health of the host, the company separated.

Owing to the regrettable absence of Mr. Marshall from indisposition, Mr. Collins had charge of the arrangements, which were carried out with complete success.

20th December.

YOKOHAMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Amended regulations touching the right of public meeting have just been issued by the authorities, and they possess considerable interest, inasmuch as they announce the removal of restrictions which have hitherto prevented all military and naval officers, either with the colours or in the reserve, from taking any part in public meetings for the discussion of political topics. "This restriction (I quote the *Mail*) is now modified so as to apply only to the period during which the reserves are called out," say sixty days every year. Officers on active service remain debarred from participation in political affairs. The modification is very favourably reviewed by the vernacular press, though in some cases expression is given to the hope long entertained that the amendment would have covered more ground. The reformed regulation prohibits all teachers and students in all schools, whether Government, public, or private, as well as students undergoing practical instruction in agriculture and industries, from being present "at any meeting held, or becoming members of any society formed, for the purpose of speaking about or discussing political topics." This is doubtless directed against the class which swells the ranks of the *soshi*. The new law is a gratifying feature of the last days of the year, and affords a pleasing contrast to the measures published by the Government in the closing days of the 22nd year of Meiji.

One of the most prominent of the numbers of lawyers, journalists, and others who felt severely the immediate effects of the promulgation of the Peace Preservation Acts of 1887 has just returned here. Mr. Ozaki, the former editor of the *Hochi Shinbun*, and whose name has lately been prominent in connection with his letters to the *Western Times* of Exeter, returned by M.M. str. *Saghalien* on Sunday last. The amnesty pronounced last February on the occasion of the declaration of the constitution enabled Mr. Ozaki to return. His arrival is welcomed by the Tokio journals. He was met at Shimbashi station by a deputation of his countrymen.

A settlement of the cabinet question has been daily expected, but beyond the resignation of Count Okuma, the news of whose convalescence will be heartily received by all, nothing is yet positively known. The *Nichi Nichi Shinbun* published an outline of the probable scope of the changes a few days since, and in that Count Yamagata was named for the Presidency of the Cabinet, Viscount Aoki for the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, Viscount Yoshikawa, present Vice-Minister of the Home Department, for that of Agriculture and Commerce (the department of which Count Inouye has for the last few months been the absent and titular chief), and Viscount Shinagawa for that of the Home Office. Other accounts mentioned Count Oki, the President of the still-existent Senate, for the Foreign Office. Everything points to the advancement of the Vice-Minister, Viscount Aoki, to the post. Whoever accepts the office will be of a bold and sanguine disposition. It is most strange that there has been no official announcement of the Government's policy regarding the treaties with foreign Powers, and it appears certain that the year will end before definite action is taken. The difficulties in the way of a reconstruction of the Cabinet must have been most serious, or surely a settlement would have been reached

long ere this. The way in which names have been bandied about, and the frequency with which we have been told that particulars of the reorganisation of the Cabinet would be obtainable shortly, are evidence that it is no easy task the proof of the accomplishment of which is now near at hand. The excessive delay is most regrettable, for apart entirely from the troublesome question of Treaty Revision, the formation and opening of the Imperial Diet next year, and the perplexities and dangers therewith connected, rendered a stable government, a government strong in itself and not weakened by its own dissensions, most desirable and necessary. But in place of confronting the country with a firm and united body, resolute in face of the difficulties and dangers of the present time, the government has seemed almost paralysed. A ship virtually without a master hand at the helm is not an inspiring spectacle at any time, but such a condition of things is as hazardous as unaccountable when it is known to be sailing in perilous waters. There is now talk of the discontinuance of the post of Minister President of State and the substitution thereof of a President of the Cabinet, with a portfolio. The question seems rather insignificant at a stage not the least remarkable for its evidence of the want of a real chief of any kind, but it is probably a result of the recent revival of the *Sat-cho* topic.

The *Japan Mail* in its editorial of the 16th inst. states that the resignation of Count Okuma (which occurred on the 14th instant, the Count removing from his official residence at the Foreign Office on the following day) will be interpreted by the public to mean two things: "firstly, that Treaty Revision will be negotiated in such a manner as not to offend any national susceptibilities; and secondly, that the Cabinet will be reorganised on a working basis." It adds that "both conclusions are still wrapped in some vagueness." They doubtless are. Count Okuma's retirement will not materially affect the progress which must sooner or later be resumed in the main work the country expects of its Foreign Minister. Neither he nor his predecessor in the office have succeeded in handing their names down to posterity associated with the prize Japan covets, the abolition of extra-territorial jurisdiction, in such a way as to unfavourably indicate either of them as the individuals through and by whom the work was accomplished; but to both statesmen unquestionably will tribute be paid in years to come for indicating and in a great measure constructing the road along which alone was progress to success possible. It will be a grave mistake to suppose, as some possibly will, that Count Okuma's resignation affords ground for the conclusion that the country is indifferent to the work he had at heart, and which he so nearly achieved. His successor, whether Viscount Aoki, Count Matsukata, or Count Yamagata himself, will be impelled to move on much the same lines, unless the utterances and writings of many influential Japanese are to be discredited and gainsaid. There are Japanese who look to the day when Consular jurisdiction within her borders shall be a thing of the past, as of more moment and of greater credit to their country than the day on which they received their constitution and the charter of representative government. The waters are again temporarily dammed up, but they will inevitably flow to their natural outlet.

The eruption of Shirane San, the volcano some of your readers have seen during their visits to the Nikko district, situated as it is on the shores of Lake Chusenji, was happily unattended by any loss of life. The last eruption, according to the account published by the *Official Gazette*, took place in the 6th year of Meiji, in the month of June. On the present occasion, ashes fell as far south as Imaichi, the last large village one passes before reaching Nikko, from which

it is about five miles off. The earliest evidence of the eruption was afforded by the waters of the Katashinagawa, which has its source in the vicinity of the mountain, which were much discoloured and which gave off a bad, sulphur-like smell. Numbers of dead fish, it was noticed, were being carried down stream. Intelligence has reached the authorities, too, of an eruption of Kirishimayama in Miyazaki Prefecture, which occurred on the night of the 10th instant, lasting a few hours.

18th December.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 17th December, 1889, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor (Chairman), M. Adler, D. Brand, J. W. Harding, J. E. Judah, E. H. Lavers, W. McDonald, G. H. Wheeler, E. Wheeley, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Woochong Road Extension.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 13th December, 1889.

SIR,—As we understand that you are favourable to the continuation of Wuchang Road, we now write to say that we are authorised by Mr. E. D. Sassoon to offer the surrender of a road 30 feet wide through his lot 530, on the east of North Szechuen Road, as coloured red on enclosed plan, at the price of £1s. 1,500 per *mov*.

As Mr. Sassoon is anxious to commence building, this offer will remain open for a fortnight.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

MORRISON & GRATTON.

P.S.—The area is 6,600 square feet.

To the CHAIRMAN of the Municipal Council.

Decided to refer this letter to the Works Committee for consideration.

Volunteers.—The following letter is ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 12th December, 1889.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that on the 18th October last the members of No. 3 Company elected Lieut. Lanning to the post of Captain in the place of Capt. Bredon, resigned, and elected Lieut. Gilby and Sergt. Bowman to the posts of 1st and 2nd lieutenant respectively. Mr. Bowman however decided not to accept the appointment.

On the 25th November the members of No. 1 Company elected Sergt. Wingrove to the post of 2nd lieutenant. Messrs Lanning, Gilby, and Wingrove came up for examination on Saturday last and passed in a satisfactory manner, Mr. Lanning's written examination being exceedingly good.

I have therefore the honour to recommend that the following commissions be granted, viz. to

G. Lanning as Capt. No. 3 Co.

H. H. Gilby as 1st Lieut. No. 3 Co.

G. R. Wingrove as 2nd Lieut. No. 1 Co.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

G. JAMES MORRISON.

Major Commanding.

To the CHAIRMAN of the Municipal Council.

Decided to approve of these appointments. The commissions are then signed and ordered to be forwarded.

Water Supply.—The following letter is ordered to be published.

Shanghai, 12th December, 1889.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed we beg to hand you our account with the Council, for water supplied during the year 1889, from which you will see the 10% reduction has been made

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES
Shanghai, 21st December, 1889.

GEORGE CAMERON,
Assistant Inspector.

Mr. G. J. MORRISON suggested that Mr. Thorne or some of the gentlemen connected with him should give some details, as well as they could, as to the way in which they proposed that the institution should be managed and supported. He was sure that in the community there could be no possible difficulty in raising Tls. 5,000 if the community were satisfied that the thing was wanted and could be kept going; and he was also certain that there was hardly anyone who would say that such an institution would not be a good thing, whatever their views might be as to who was to pay for it. He thought a great many people would like to know, before they subscribed, if this really was to be an institution on a solid basis. He had heard remarks outside about a proposal to have a school for about 100 children, who were to be supported free. That would entail a very heavy annual cost, and so far as he knew no provision had been made for it, except the hope that the people who had subscribed in the past would subscribe in the future. Keeping such a large number of children might mean an annual expenditure of Tls. 5,000; and it was quite possible that a man who was willing to put down his name for his share of Tls. 5,000 at once might not be so willing to make an annual subscription. As to the probable sources of income, he supposed that the Municipal Council, having already contributed for some years to the Eurasian School, would continue their grant, and that the income derived from the funded property of the Children's Home would also be available; while there were probably means of getting payment for children even when nominally destitute. When a man died here leaving a destitute family, he nearly always had relatives at home who would be willing to subscribe a sufficient amount if there were an institution of this kind. It should be clearly stated in the circular that subscriptions were asked for the foundation of the establishment, and not an annual subscription. He had heard a suggestion that the Municipal Council should be asked to subscribe the necessary funds. He would not dispute the right of the Municipal Council, as representing the ratepayers, to vote this sum; but, looking at it as a matter of public policy, he could not think it would be a good thing for the Council to subscribe, nor did he think it would be a handsome way of accepting Mr. Hanbury's very kind offer. Mr. Hanbury had

made money in the place and had not forgotten it and was now ready to put his hand in his pocket and make a gift to the place for the good of his successors; and if people thought it was a good thing to have a school of this kind it was their duty to do the same thing, to the necessary amount. The speaker concluded by urging that it was of the greatest importance that the committee should include in their circular some brief outline of the way in which it was proposed that the institution should be managed; and, this done, the money could be raised not only before the end of February but within the next ten days. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. F. C. BISHOP said that on referring to the accounts of the Children's Home, he found that in the first six months the expenditure was Tls. 675, and the income, from subscriptions, interest, and school fees Tls. 678; and subscriptions had not been at all pressed for; but of course during the first six months the Home could scarcely be said to have been started, and the figures he had given could hardly be looked upon as a basis for the future. At present there were 11 children in the Home, of whom 5 were boarders; and he estimated the expenditure for the next twelve months at Tls. 1,600. Of that amount Tls. 500 was for rent; so that it might be taken that for 10 children Tls. 1,000 a year was all that the community would be called upon to find. Their endowment fund was Tls. 2,400, and the interest on that would be available. The annual subscriptions need not be very heavy to continue the institution so far as the Children's Home was concerned, free of rent, once they got into the building. A very strong argument in favour of raising the amount was that it would carry out Mr. Hanbury's scheme for a school for Eurasians and others. He thought the scheme was one which should commend itself to all mercantile firms and all who required clerical labour, and on that ground alone he hoped many firms would give handsome contributions. He believed the contribution from the Municipal Council carried on the Eurasian School; and under the management of the committee of the Children's Home the expense of working that school in combination with the Children's Home would be rather reduced than increased.

The Rev. W. MUIRHEAD, speaking as one who had been for many years connected with the Eurasian School and was fully conversant with the manner in which it was carried on, said they had been much indebted to the Municipal Council for the allowance made for several years for current expenses; but in addition to that allowance a very large sum was received from the scholars themselves, both boarders and day-scholars. They could not do without the Council's allowance, but the money brought in by the school itself covered three-fourths of the current expenses; and in the event of the School and Home being united, the same system could be carried on. He should deprecate being connected with any institution that depended wholly or chiefly upon the annual contributions of the community. With regard to the points very properly raised by Mr. Morrison as to the manner in which the schools in question were to be carried on: it would be in much the same way as now, and as in the case of the Eurasian School had been done for many years. There would be teachers appointed for the boys and girls, and a certain number of the committee of both institutions would inquire from time to time into the progress the scholars had been making, and would report thereon to the Municipal Council. Of course any parties belonging to the community who might be desirous of seeing for themselves would be welcome to visit the institution and form an opinion on it. Those particularly interested in the Children's Home and the Eurasian School would be very glad to receive suggestions and advice from any conversant

with such subjects; but everything would be done by the committee and their representatives that would tend to carry out the object in view most effectually. After referring to the testimony received from past pupils of the Eurasian School as to the benefit they had derived from the excellent tuition imparted to them, the speaker concluded by expressing an earnest hope that the sum needed would be raised.

Mr. BISHOP said he had omitted to mention that they had some Tls. 3,000 in hand of a fund to go on with for two or three years.

Mr. DAVIS asked if any estimate had been made of the cost of the building.

Mr. THORNE said Mr. Cory had kindly drawn a sketch plan of a building which would accommodate 82 children; and, with the old building material now upon the ground, he thought the sum of Tls. 10,000 added would suffice for its erection.

Mr. PURDON asked when the annual ratepayers' meeting would take place.

The CHAIRMAN said the date was not fixed, but the meeting would not take place before February.

Mr. PURDON said that although he had always objected to public money being given to private institutions over which the Council had no control and of which they never received any account, he thought that as this Home was to be permanently in trust of the Council, who no doubt would have some control over it, it was on an entirely different basis, and if it was to be an institution from which the whole community would benefit, the ratepayers, if the meeting took place soon enough, might fairly be asked to appropriate the small amount necessary to establish it; if they refused there would be time, if the idea was correct that the money could be raised in ten days, to do so before the required time, but if the meeting did not take place till the end of February, he supposed that would be too late.

The CHAIRMAN said that personally he should not object to the ratepayers voting a sum for such an institution as this; but he doubted if, on abstract and proper principles, it was the business of the ratepayers to vote money for institutions which had very decided and well defined principles of education and Scriptural teaching. The time might come, possibly it was not far distant, when, as his friend Mr. Muirhead once said, something might be proposed to the ratepayers for a grant for educational purposes, such as prevailed in the neighbouring colony of Hongkong. That would be a proper subject for discussion, because it would not be for the benefit of any one institution or school; but he had his doubts whether a grant could be made in this case.

Mr. WILKINSON said the information given had not been sufficient to enable him as an outsider to form an opinion as to the probable prospects of the institution, and it would be advisable to furnish further particulars in the circular. The impression left on his mind by Mr. Bishop's statement was that that gentleman had been calculating for a school of 11 children, whereas he (the speaker) thought any estimate should be based on the probable number of inmates.

The Rev. H. C. HODGES observed that at present no private subscriptions at all were required for the Eurasian School, which had an attendance of about 60. He pointed out that, taking the estimate of current expenses, with a larger number of inmates the current expenses would be proportionately reduced; and they might fairly anticipate that the proposed school would not require more help from the public than they were justified in expecting the public to grant, considering the interest already taken in the scheme.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood the present staff was equal to superintending a great many more children than were now in the Home, and that therefore there

would practically be no additional expense except in the case of provision for food and clothing, which was not a very extravagant matter. He understood that the object was to train both boys and girls to be efficient and useful members of society—not to be "ladies and gentlemen," as he had heard it said.

The Rev. W. MUIRHEAD added some further details as to the expenditure and receipts at the Eurasian School, in the course of which he said that the large proportion of boys there each paid \$2 a month, and this amount, with the Council's grant, sufficed to meet current expenses.

The Ven. Archdeacon MOULE said it was probable that they would have comparatively few boys as boarders. If they had to accept as many boys as boarders as they hoped to get girls, Mr. Muirhead's hopeful prospect was not likely to be realised and the expenses would be largely increased; but he (the speaker) agreed with the Chairman in anticipating a large number of day boys and few boy boarders.

Dr. FOCKE briefly supported the resolution, and agreed with Mr. Morrison and Mr. Wilkinson that information should be given to the public as to the general working of the institution and its probable cost.

Mr. F. C. BISHOP said that when he mentioned Tls. 1,100 as the estimate for next year, about Tls. 700 of that would be for superintending expenses. If they took Tls. 1,100 as the estimate for 10 children, the cost of ten more would be Tls. 1,500, and of 30 Tls. 1,900. The original estimate for 10 children at the Children's Home was Tls. 1,800, and it was found that the actual expense was only Tls. 1,600.

After some more remarks from Mr. Morrison, the resolution was put and carried, and the meeting terminated after the Chairman had announced that the proposed circular would be drawn up by the President and Treasurer of the Children's Home.

Archdeacon Moule writes to us as follows:—"Mr. Morrison and others asked searchingly as to the future support of the institution; and both Mr. Bishop and Mr. Muirhead answered the enquiry, apparently to Mr. Morrison's complete satisfaction, and I should hope the public will be much reassured and will produce the required sum. But Mr. Muirhead was, I think, misleading and somewhat optimistic, almost giving us to understand that the Eurasian day and boarding school is well in funds, and will always be so; in fact, that it may be self-supporting; and I think the general idea was that if only the Tls. 5,000 are forthcoming, no more demand will be made on the generous public here. This requires, I think, to be modified thus:—"It must be clearly understood that though the boys' department of the proposed establishment will be quite unable to forego the generous annual grant given hitherto by the Municipal Council, and though the girls' boarding school (the original "Children's Home") will still depend on the subscriptions and donations of its friends and supporters, no burdensome charity is being laid on the shoulders of the Shanghai benevolent public, but rather one which will be both easy to sustain and not without reflex benefits for its supporters."

PREHISTORIC CHINA.

There was a fairly large attendance on Friday evening at the Library of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, where a meeting was held for the purpose of hearing extracts from an important paper by Dr. Faber on "Prehistoric China revealed by the Chinese written characters." The chair was taken by Mr. P. J. Hughes, (H.B.M. Consul-General) who in opening the proceedings said:—

Gentlemen—The proceedings at the meeting of last Saturday having been reported in the local press, we may, with your

permission, dispense with the formality of reading the minutes.

There are, however, a few matters not mentioned at the last meeting which it is desirable to notice. I am informed by our Honorary Secretary that the replies to the questions circulated by the society early last year on 'currency and measures' have come in neither as readily nor as fully as was expected. Mr. Morse, who has kindly undertaken the duty of editing the replies, reports that the abstract of the papers which he is preparing "will be useful only to circulate for amendment and amplification." When the abstract is complete, it is proposed to print and circulate it, in order that the information may be checked and supplemented. It is hoped that all who are interested in the subject—and it is one which should be specially interesting to all engaged in commerce—will aid in making the information as full and precise as possible.

I may add that at a late meeting of the Council of our society, it was suggested that the subject for a similar series of questions to be put in circulation next year should be "The Roads and General Means of Communication and Travel throughout China." With a view of obtaining information on this important subject, a list of questions is in course of preparation.

When referring at the last meeting to the forthcoming papers intended to be read or published, I should have mentioned that we have in the press a valuable paper by Mr. von Möllendorff on Manchu Literature.

It is also my duty to announce that since the annual general meeting of the 28th May the following gentlemen have been elected members of the Society:—The Rev. E. T. Williams and Dr. R. C. Beebe, of Nanking; Messrs. A. D. Startseff and G. Martinoff, of Tientsin; Messrs. Chesney Duncan and T. E. Hallifax, of Corea; and Messrs. Claude A. Rees and Otto Messing of Shanghai. I now beg to invite Dr. Faber to favour us with some account of his paper on "Prehistoric China revealed by the Chinese Written Characters." The paper in its original form has been accepted for publication by the Council and will appear in the Society's transactions at an early date.

Dr. FABER began by pointing out that the word history must in this case be taken in its narrowest sense, and that it was used to denote China before any reliable records existed. Chinese history began with the annals of the State of Lou, 722 B.C., published by Confucius 240 years later. Even this work had suffered somewhat by the doctrinal tenets of Confucius, but still we could find in it a statement of facts and the natural order of things. There were other records of that period preserved, by which many statements of the Confucian text could be verified, and errors rectified. Of the time before the 8th century B.C. we find no such trustworthy historical records in China; although there are documents pretending to belong to earlier periods, there is no unquestionable evidence as to their authenticity and there are strong arguments to the contrary. The safest position that could be taken was to regard all documents of such earlier literature of China as productions of the time of Confucius and succeeding ages. There were in China monuments and relics of antiquity which might give much information if examined and compared, but there was no access to them; and there was no Chinese museum in which to find antiquities arranged for comparative study. But there was fortunately a rich mine of solid historical metal unwrought at our feet, in the shape of the Chinese characters. Much had been written about the characters, but they had not yet been used as guides into the remote antiquities of China. Every written character, taken in its isolated value without reference to the position and meaning of sentences, was a historical

monument; and of the 100 elementary characters each was a sketch of an object out of the scenery of Chinese life 4,000 years ago. The lecturer then proceeded to show how the multitudinous characters of to-day were all combinations of elementary ones, some being made up of as many as five elementary characters. His analysis led to the following facts:—(1) The whole of the multitude of Chinese characters can be divided into two natural groups, phonetic and non-phonetic. (2) All phonetic characters are composed of a classifier and one other character, simple or compound, called a primitive. (3) The non-phonetic characters are also either simple or compound. (4) All characters are reducible to about 100 simple ones. (5) Most of these simple or elementary characters are contained in the list of 240 classifiers now in use. (6) Every elementary character in its original form is a rude outline of an object. (7) The form of the elementary character contains no indication of its pronunciation. (8) We meet with elementary characters modified by turning round or by simple additions which are not characters. (9) We find two or more elementary characters combined into a new character without indication of pronunciation. (10) We find simple or more frequently compound characters used to indicate pronunciation. These ten statements were formulations of so many facts and were beyond dispute. From them two conclusions were drawn with mathematical exactness: (1) that elementary characters must have been in existence before compound ones, and (2) that compound characters existed before they were used to indicate sound. Three periods of writing were established: (1) elementary characters, or the period of pictorial writing; (2) modifications and combinations, or the period of ideographic writing; (3) their use to indicate pronunciation, or the period of phonetic writing. Passing on to the more immediate subject, prehistoric China as shown in the elementary characters, the lecturer said he divided the 100 elementary characters into five groups, the first relating to man, the second to animals, the third to plants, the fourth to inanimate nature, and the fifth to the products of human industry. From the first group we learnt that society was already in a settled state. A chief was prominent in the community, and he had somebody to support his dignity and carry out his orders. The chief was the head of an organised clan—and organised clans had played a great part in the early history of China and even now. Every family name of the Chinese now could be traced back to some noble family of ancient China. The characters in the second group contained names of animals of all the great natural orders, and distinguished the principal kinds of domestic animals: a fact showing that the human mind was already conscious of its power over nature. It was a great step in civilisation to have brute creatures subdued and brought into the service of man. Sheep and goats were denoted by the same character; and in mountainous regions it was probable that large flocks of sheep were not kept at that time. Wild horses and wild pigs might have existed, as the latter existed now in China and the former on the grassy plains of Tartary. Dogs were not only used as guardians but their flesh was used for meat from very ancient times. There were indications, however, in ancient Chinese literature that in the earliest periods animal food was confined to sacrificial occasions. Tigers, which are still the terror of the southern and middle parts of China, no doubt existed; all animals of prey were expressed in the general term "crawling beast." Of fish the carp was the representative, which proved that the writers lived away from the ocean, as otherwise they would have chosen some more striking form of fish. A glimpse at sacrificial processes was afforded by classifier No. 25, which was a representation of the

veins on the shell of a tortoise, made visible when being burnt for sacrifice. The different kinds of silk manufactured had been known from the remotest antiquity; and the distinction between trees and herbs had been notified even in prehistoric China, though only the bamboo and melon were honoured with special elementary characters. Bamboo tablets, on which the characters were scratched, formed the earliest known writing materials. In the fourth group was found evidence that the use of fire was known. Overhanging cliffs were used as shelter, indicating a mountainous country, which was further shown by the description of water being "mountain streams," and not waves of the sea. Another stage indicated a progress in civilisation. Houses were built with doors and windows, and enclosures were made for domestic animals. Chinese religion in prehistoric times was shown by some of the elementary characters; and it might be that the classifier of religious forms (113) related to this period. There was also a character for divination, showing that men must have felt their dependence on divine favour, and that in order to insure success they first inquired about the divine will regarding any undertaking. This was a custom prevailing even now, from the Emperor down to the lowest coolie, who first tried to find out the will of the powers above and then to propitiate them. Dr. Faber concluded his extracts by a brief reference to indications of a later period in the Tribute of Yü.

Dr. EDKINS said that the exposition by Dr. Faber of the formation of the characters was highly interesting and would prove useful, it was to be hoped, in alluring to the study of the Chinese writings a larger circle of students. In regard to Dr. Faber's chronology he thought it very far in the wrong. By assuming the age of Chinese writing to be no earlier than about 800 years before Christ Dr. Faber placed himself in opposition to Confucius, to Mencius, to the Han dynasty scholars, to the classical school of the Tang dynasty, to the Sung dynasty critical school, and to the scholars of the present dynasty, who had carried research much further than it had been carried before and in a perfectly independent manner. Dr. Faber was prepared to treat the classics as legend, and in doing so he was going against much valuable evidence. For example, there was the astronomical proof of the genuineness of the first parts of the *Shu-king*. The Pleiades are now at the winter solstice about 145 degrees distant from the sun. But in the *Shu-king* the Pleiades were only 90 degrees from the sun at the winter solstice. The precession of the equinoxes is nearly a minute a year. Taking it at fifty seconds, in 71 years the place of the Pleiades has moved a degree; hence the observation in the *Shu-king* must have been made about 2,108 years before Christ. Any one can make the addition of 50 seconds a year and he will find it so. In this case we find astronomy in accord with the Chinese chronology, and we had better, then, accept their statement in regard to the books in which this and three other similar observations of stars are found. Not that the book is entire or uninjured. It consists of fragments, and in it there are many gaps. But these entries of an astronomical kind shew that its earlier portions deserve our confidence. With this view the contents of the book agree. The emperor Yau gave his three daughters as wives to one husband, the emperor Shun. Such a thing could not have happened in the China of the Chow dynasty or at any later period. The book that contains it must therefore be much more ancient. So with the geographical chapter, the *Yü-king*. Dr. Faber said it was written in the Chow dynasty. But against this view is the fact that it has no Chow dynasty names. Its territorial divisions are the Nine provinces, the *Kieu cheu*, names which had given place to others in the time of the Chow. So it may be shown in

regard to the *Yi-king*, the book of divination, that the names of five-sixths of its 64 sections are older than the Chow period and that they must have been the accepted names of the divining symbols many centuries before B.C. 1120, the time of Wau Wang. The completion of the system of Chinese writing only about three centuries before the age of Confucius is not capable of being harmonised with the fact that Confucius admired antiquity and studied with great reverence the classics which he edited. If they were such new productions we should have found proof of it in his writings. So with Mencius. Mencius at the end of his work speaks reverentially of the line of ancient kings and sages ending with Confucius a hundred years before himself. They are, he says, parted at intervals of 500 years or more. Yau and Shun, T'ang and Wen, are his moral and political heroes; and to his knowledge the oldest of these lived more than 1,600 years before his own age. The passage is a splendid ending to a brilliant book and comes from one who was a professed expounder of the doctrines of the ancient sages, and was personally extremely fond of history. Thus Dr. Faber placed himself in direct opposition not only to Confucius but also to Mencius. Then it should be remembered with what earnestness the scholars of the Han dynasty laboured to restore the ancient classics. Could these able and learned men be so far mistaken about these books as Dr. Faber's hypothesis implied? It was impossible; and so with the learned classical school of the T'ang dynasty. It was no easy task to overthrow the results of their careful and laborious vigils. Then came the school of the Sung philosophers, followed at due interval by the critical school of the present dynasty. Truly it was a long array of authorities distinguished for deep scholarship and critical acumen to whose views and wide knowledge this theory of the late origin of Chinese writing is opposed. The critical school of the present dynasty, beginning with the seventeenth century and still flourishing, is specially worthy of respect. The "bell and vase" school of research began its career in the Sung dynasty. At present there are about fifty vases in the imperial collection marked in books as of the Shang dynasty; and in the inscriptions on these vases there are many characters which are written phonetically, so that the phonetic principle must have been adopted several centuries before B.C. 1120. Lastly, to account for the orderly development of the language since the first poetry was written we need the whole of the extent of the Chinese historical chronology and cannot do with less. A single tone takes about a thousand or fifteen hundred years to grow up into accepted use. This natural law would find its scope for action much too cramped and confined within the restricting limits of Dr. Faber's new hypothesis. Recognising the utility of Dr. Faber's analysis of the characters and his study of their construction, his chronology of their origin needed to be firmly rejected, although he had supported his views with so much learning, so much Chinese reading, and so much knowledge of the subject.

Dr. WILLIAMSON, who said he agreed with Dr. Edkins on the subject of chronology, and who put a number of questions to Dr. Faber on points raised, mentioned that 3,000 years before Christ the Akkads, whose writing had only lately been deciphered, had libraries of two kinds—clay bricks and papyri—and hymns to their gods.

Mr. KINGSMILL said that were he to differ from the writer of the paper it would not be as the last speaker on the score of his having postdated the introduction of writing into China. Rather he thought that he had assigned too early a date for the use of the written character as a means of disseminating literature. There was evidence, and very strong evidence too, that even so

late as the time of Confucius the character was not so far developed as to be available for expressing thought and language generally. There was nothing unique in the spectacle of a nation advancing to a high level of civilisation without the possession of a written literature; the case of India, situated nearer to Europe and the west was in point. The Rig Veda was on good grounds assigned an antiquity of about fifteen hundred years before Christ, yet it was not till the successors of Alexander opened a path for western civilisation that writing was introduced. The ancient Sanscrit literature was during all that period handed down by oral tradition, and not only the Vedas themselves but, extraordinary to relate, a mass of explanations and comments exceeding in size the original. On the landing of the Spaniards in Central America they found an advanced civilisation co-existing with an entire absence of writing; quipos did indeed exist and were used for keeping tallies and as remembrancers of the great events of history, but the idea of their representing language had never dawned on the inhabitants. Mencius, who had been appealed to on the other side and whose authority they would scarcely doubt, was very explicit on the condition of affairs in China. "When the traces of the royal power of Chow were extinguished, the art of ballad making was forgotten and annals came into vogue," he tells us (IV. 2. XXI). As a fact the period of the destruction of the capital by the Turks (cir. B.C. 770) marks the close of the ballad era. It seems difficult for us, brought up amidst the surroundings of a literature some two thousand five hundred years old, to realise the condition of a people well advanced in civilisation without the aid of letters, yet we have only to look back along the current of our own history to find that but for external circumstances we might have been in similar case. The old ballads sung by the bards at the court of the Welsh princes were the exact analogue of the ballads of the *Shi-king*, and so late as B.C. 541 we find (*Shiking* XXXI) the king of Wu sending his brother Kicha to the capital of Lu to hear and see their representation, a work of complete superelevation did the ballads, as we are gravely told, exist in writing at the time. Again B.C. 529 we find the assistant recorder of Chow praised for his profound knowledge in understanding the three *fun*, five *tien*, eight *soh* and nine *k'iu*. He however fails when he is asked about the *K'i-shuo*. "If he doesn't know this," is the remark, "how should he know anything more distant?" Even so late as the time of Confucius we find no mention of writing and reading. True, Dr. Legge by one of those strange instances of mistranslation which are the scandal of sinologues makes Confucius ask his son "Have you read the Odes?" but the word rendered "read" is "*hsio*," to learn by heart. The *Sün-yü* bears internal evidence that it was not composed till long after the time of the sage, probably some three generations, for in Mencius and his contemporaries we find unmistakable allusions to writing and reading, while not a single mention is made of either in the works attributed to Confucius. When therefore he tells us Confucius was afraid when he had made the *Ch'un-t'sin*, we find him using the same word "make" which is applied to composing a ballad. What Confucius really did make, and the result of which he feared, is hardly to be considered as what we recognise as the text of what is now called the *Ch'un-t'sin*, but then were lectures delivered to his disciples, which afterwards, written down in the time of his grandson, became known as the *Tso-chuan* or "Assisting Narrative" erroneously rendered as Tso's narrative, for whose composition a special sage, Tso King-ming, has been invented by the myth-makers. The *Ch'un-t'sin* itself was doubtless in existence in Confucius' time, but its structure shows that it was at best but a rude

description of writing. Even as now printed, with its necessary particles supplied, it contains scarcely one thousand characters: in its original state it must have contained much fewer, and was probably not much advanced beyond the stage of quipos. It was not history, but merely the pegs on which history could be hung, and to enable it to be of any service the court *shis* handed down orally from one to another the tradition of the events. This was the work of Confucius, and as soon as the art of writing was sufficiently advanced to enable language to be portrayed it resulted in the present *Tso-chuan*. He had himself paid much attention to the early literature of China with reference to the subject of Dr. Faber's paper; he had taken up the subject with no foregone conclusion, and the result was that he had to discard the genuineness of much of the so-called early literature. Allusion had been made to the *Shuking*, and he must express surprise that Chinese students had been unable to recognise the composite character of the work as handed down. The earlier portions of the *Shu* more especially are of this description and consist of rude rhymes, generally of four characters, embedded in a crust of later verbiage which is frequently little better than a mass of rubbish. The most trustworthy of the ancient works, the so-called Book of Odes, really the ballads of the Chows, was, he was sorry to notice, but little understood by Chinese students, but a careful study could not fail to correct many of the errors into which they had fallen. Of similar construction to the *Shu* was the *Yih-king* a copy of which he had brought with him. If the cabalistic excretions were removed from the text they would find left behind what were probably meant to represent rude verses, and some of these he had translated and gave a specimen. The so-called early history of China, as the early history of many of the other nations of antiquity, began in myth and ended in legend. Besides this there was a vast amount of pure invention. They had heard quoted the pretended bases of the Shang dynasty, and his readers would no doubt be surprised to learn that the 28 so-called Kings of that line were simply an old rendering of the twenty-eight mansions of the lunar zodiac. We find these constellations appearing in ancient Persian in the Bundahesh, in India in the Surya Siddharta, and in old China in the ordinary received twenty-eight *Suh*. Whence the names preserved in the Kings came he was not at the moment prepared to say, but their relations were apparently with the west, and the lists of the sovereigns bore internal evidence of having been evolved in the Han dynasty. It was doubtless comfortable to some minds to receive this mass of verbiage and rubbish as representing an ancient literature, and he envied Drs. Edkins and Williamson the frame of mind which led them to accept it because it was more agreeable to do so than to seek deeper for the truth. Unfortunately, with the writer of the paper he was unable to bring his mind to this compliant state, and was glad in the interests of scientific truth that Dr. Faber had been bold enough to cast to one side the fetters of an unwholesome tradition.

Dr. FABER having replied to various points raised in the discussion,

Dr. JAMIESON said that he had felt it a great privilege when a few minutes before he had received a note from the Honorary Secretary, asking him to propose a vote of thanks to Dr. Faber for the interesting and valuable paper they had just listened to—a paper, he had no hesitation in saying, which would prove the most important which had ever appeared in the transactions of the Society. Those who had once been or were still students of history knew by sad experience that all history voluntarily constructed was liable to be deformed by falsehood; and without any unjustifiable amount

of the scepticism which had been denounced by Dr. Edkins, it might be said that no record so formed, no matter how sacred or monumental, was worthy of implicit credence. But here the history, unconsciously inscribed on the language itself, was necessarily and infallibly true. There would needs be differences in the interpretation of it, but whereas, in the case of ordinary history, false interpretations of false records led us into a geometrical progression of error, we had, on the ground which Dr. Faber had broken, only to make sure of our interpretation by careful analysis in order to arrive at certain truth regarding the periods corresponding to the documents. The case was strictly analogous to that of the past history of our globe lithographed on the eternal rocks, where the animals and plants of ages long gone by had left indelible impressions which had only in comparatively recent times found their interpretation. Over these, countless generations of our predecessors had walked all heedless of the treasure beneath their feet. It was a like treasure that Dr. Faber had brought to light, and he (the speaker) was confident that he expressed the feeling of all who had heard Dr. Faber's exposition, when he proposed a hearty and appreciative vote of thanks to the lecturer for doing for Chinese what Max Müller and other eminent scholars had done for the primitive Aryan language.

The vote of thanks was carried by acclamation, and the meeting terminated with the usual compliment to the Chairman.

Amusements.

"SCHOOL" AT THE LYCEUM.

CHARACTERS:

Jack Poyntz	Mr. Douglas.
Beau Farintosh	Mr. D. Munday.
Mr. Krux	Mr. Pendarves.
Dr. Sutcliffe	Mr. Umber.
Lord Beaufoy	Mr. Super.
Vaughan	Mr. Nodrup.
Bella	Madame Reitrop.
Naomi Tighe	Mrs. Evelyn.
Mrs. Sutcliffe	Mrs. Queensbrook.
Milly	Miss Morydd.
Tilly	Miss M. Morydd.
Laura	Mrs. Jollyboy.
Kate	Miss MacBurn.
Flo	Miss Guelderose.
Clara	Miss Jollyboy.
Daisy	Miss Elta Jollyboy.
Hetty	Miss Elsie Vandyske.
Gamekeepers, Footmen, etc.	Messrs. Kift, Christmas, McCraw, & Hathaway.

The ninety-fourth performance by the Amateur Dramatic Club of Shanghai took place at the Lyceum Theatre on Thursday, (19th). Robertsonian comedies, a *genus* of their own, are being revived in London, and the A. D. C. was therefore in the fashion, and when the Committee can secure the services of such a charming bevy of ladies as appeared for them on Thursday, they could not do better than select *School* for the opening performance of the season. As was to be expected there was a large audience, some of the constituents of which might well have been a little more punctual in arriving. The actors and the stage were all ready, we are informed, by a quarter to nine; but the audience was not nearly seated by nine, and it was some ten minutes after the fixed hour when the performance actually began, and then for the next ten minutes there were still people coming in, which is embarrassing to the actors, and most inconvenient to the people who are already seated.

The German play of *Aschenbrüdel* on which *School* is founded only served Robertson for a text; he was too kind-hearted a man to allow *Bella* to be treated by Dr. and Mrs. Sutcliffe as her prototype was by her sisters, and this weakens considerably the main action of the play. If *Bella* were the despised and ill-treated drudge that *Cinderella* was we should have much more

sympathy with *Lord Beaufoy*; as it is, there does not seem to be any reason why he should elope with her, and *Bella* herself moves us almost to tears by her own sorrow at leaving her home. This is only one of the anomalies of the play, which will not bear criticising at all as a piece of dramatic work, but it is pretty, it is sound, it is free from the banalities of the modern three-act farce, and there is a great deal of bright writing in it. Its gravest fault is that the *dénouement* occurs in the middle of the fourth act, with the return of *Bella* as *Lady Beaufoy*, and the latter half of the act is merely tedious surplusage, which it is as unkind to make the actors speak as the audience hear.

The two leading girls' parts, played by Madame Reitrop and Mrs. Evelyn, were both very well filled, and the contrast between the two characters was capitally sustained. *Bella's* great scene is at the end of the third act, and she moved her audience as she should do in her pathetic farewell to her home; while *Naomi* has to read *Jack's* letter, a bit of nature, even to its misspelling, that never fails to bring down the house. Mrs. Evelyn has a bright, intelligent, way of acting that is always attractive, and her voice carries all through the house, so that the attention of her audience is never strained. Mrs. Queensbrook was a dignified *Mrs. Sutcliffe* in appearance and manner, but it might be doubted if she was not too goodnatured to keep in order such an unruly lot of young ladies. Mr. D. Munday was good as *Beau Farintosh*, both before and after his reform; but the most marked creation was Mr. Pendarves' *Krux* which was one of the most skillfully repulsive bits of character painting that the Lyceum has seen. The two heroes *Poyntz* and *Beaufoy*, were very creditably played; unfortunately Robertson's young men are always very sketchy, and it is difficult to make much effect with them. Mr. Umber's *Dr. Sutcliffe* lacked roundness and distinction; and he is in the painful predicament, for an amateur, of being constantly on the stage and having nothing to say. The school-girls were simply delightful, and the spirit with which they entered into the examination scene made the audience, literally to a man, wish that it was twice as long. It is a credit to any dramatic society to be able to put on the stage such a *force* of stalwart gamekeepers and footmen.

Mr. Prophet must be specially complimented on the beautiful scene, the Glade in the Forest, on which the first act was played; nor was the School Garden of the last two acts less deserving of mention: it was particularly pretty when the lights and shadows played across it, thrown by Mr. Mann's lime light. In the celebrated milk scene, for which, pretty as it is, Robertson was unmercifully chaffed, the soft music greatly enhanced the effect. Mr. Munday, who added to his representation of the old beau the arduous task of stage management, was happy in his groupings of the school-girls; and we cannot close without mentioning the excellent playing of the orchestra under the direction of M. Vela, particularly in the delightful selection from *Carmen*. The A.D.C. has perhaps had more triumphant successes to record, but it has given few performances that went more evenly and smoothly throughout, or in which the general level was so well maintained.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

An exceedingly pleasant day for a run such as was laid on this occasion by Messrs. Callaway and Whitfield, the winners of the previous hunt. Over thirty riders assembled at Blydenburgh's Turn at the appointed hour for the start, 3.30 p.m., and were despatched by the Master shortly afterwards. A scanty scent, made so chiefly by the eager hands of industrious natives, led by way of the Lagoon to the at all times difficult drop jump on the high ground in

the corner, in the direction of the Hill creek; on this occasion it had been dug away and undermined also, and few got over without a fall. Leaving this point the foxes took a line in the inner Hungjow country, crossing the Stewards' bridge, the big Handicap jump in the middle of the field, followed by the equally pleasant one by the village, both being cleared by all in excellent style. The next notable point passed was the Handicap bridge, en route to the false Jessfield Line, thence to the difficult cut reed jump on the left, and across the Jessfield Road to the little round, the flags being discovered certainly within sight of, but at a considerable distance from, *Del Monte*. The course laid out had evidently been carefully chosen, the jumps were both good and numerous, and I imagine the hunt was enjoyed by all. Excessive anxiety was displayed by a few at the bridges which had to be crossed, always a great source of danger, unfortunately not only to those who unintentionally or otherwise rush to a position to which they are not entitled, but to their neighbours also. The hunt was judiciously kept together by the Master; when the scent was lost we harked back to the point where it was last seen, the only safe preventive of disqualified hunts.

The country people were excessively obnoxious; one field with not a garden or vegetable within a mile of it, and a place to be avoided on account of the heavy clods, was occupied by an excited native who hurled both earth and abusive epithets at each rider as he passed; in another place a pugilistic Teuton was challenged in the open and a capital struggle was witnessed by a few riders who were not in any particular hurry; the result as might have been expected was in favour of the challenger, who fought well and judiciously ran away as soon as he was able.

It appears to be the opinion of many, and is distinctly so of your correspondent, that the recently inaugurated system of advertising for claims from the wily native is much to be deprecated; it was to a great extent brought about by the conversation of people adverse to paper hunting; it is absurd to suppose that vegetables flourish at this time of year.

Casualties occurred at all points, but were more than usually numerous near the finish, causing a material change in positions; the Master unfortunately was amongst the injured ones.

First between the flags was Mr. Hart Buck on *Violent*, followed by Mr. Middleton (heavy weight) on *Kingcraft*, Mr. Ramsay on *Othello*, Mr. Hegnauer on *Chasseron*, etc., etc.

X.

CHRISTMAS DAY PAPER HUNT.

A hunt in Hongkew at such a long distance from what the bulk of us term *home* is not altogether a popular one on our common holiday; still, such a charming day as Wednesday was in itself ample attraction to bring out a large number of both riders and spectators.

The start was near the Camp Hotel at 3.30 p.m., with a big water jump immediately afterwards, the latter not notified in the advertisement. About 25 riders got away and with as little delay as possible proceeded into the heart of the lower run in Hongkew but without going so far as "Hell."

The tide was a high one and well up; consequently the first obstruction was a damper to many and doubtless the chief cause of the bulk of the ponies out showing no form whatever at the jumps throughout.

The fox was the Master, assisted by the able manager of the Waterworks, but on this occasion the element was not under his control; the creeks, all more or less tidal, were very full of water, and at intervals during the run, of riders, who

were possibly not full enough. Still, we had a capital ride; the jumps were all fair and good, and great care had been taken to avoid as much as possible the very heavy country, the aversion of paper hunters. The finish was over the usual dry-cut near Wayside, and when nearing it paper was entirely ignored and one of our number started for the final jump with a lead of decidedly half a mile, the signal "Tally Ho" being given when out of hearing distance.

Mr. Renny came up first to the finishing jump on *Encounter*, with Mr. Walker on *Veteran* immediately behind. Both swerved, but the first-named got over at the second attempt, Mr. Whitfield on *Crimstone* second, Mr. Hart Buck on *Violent* third, Messrs. Ramsay, Walker and Wallace passing the flags next.

X.

FOOTBALL.

An Association match was played on Saturday between sides captained by Messrs. Harris and Matthews, the former's team wearing colours and the latter's whites. The Colours, with the advantage of a strong wind, attacked throughout the first half, but could not score, and on changing ends had themselves to act on the defensive. Nothing, however, was scored, and the game was left drawn. The form was much better than at the commencement of the season, but there is still a great tendency on the part of many of the players to forget where their proper place in the field is; and in consequence the general style of play is not so scientific as might be wished. Sides:

Colours: W. Wills, goal; R. R. Lee, back; R. Mauchan and R. J. Harris (capt.) half backs; J. Harvie, E. Tuck, W. H. Drummond, A. J. H. Moule, and E. Liversidge, forwards.

Whites: G. A. Raper, goal; G. A. Matthews, back; J. Mann and H. C. Marshall, half backs; W. H. Moule, H. G. Courtenay, J. Coulthard, T. C. Phillips, J. McIver, and J. H. Lyle, forwards.

POLICE SHOOTING CLUB.

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION.

File competition, to be shot for by files consisting of an experienced shot and a griffin, partners to be drawn for. Ranges, 200 and 500 yards. Four prizes, first prize \$20; second prize, \$15; third prize \$10; fourth prize \$5. This competition, which was arranged for the purpose of inducing the old shots to impart some of their experience to the griffins, was shot on Christmas morning. It was anything but a good morning for shooting, a thick fog hanging over the range and totally obscuring the targets at 500 yards until 9 o'clock. The first prize was secured by Ch. Insp. Cameron and his griffin Serg. Murphy, with a total of 107 points, Insp. Wilson and P.C. Watts running them very close with 105. The following are the scores of the six best files:—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Tl. G.Tl.
Ch. In. Cameron.....	5514151-31	5412254-28-59	107
Serg. Murphy.....	3315145-28	0122114-20-48	
Insp. Wilson.....	4534345-28	4344145-29-57	105
P.C. Watts.....	4514513-29	0042544 10-48	
Serg. Turnbull.....	3535554-28	5455552-31-59	91
P.C. Hughes.....	0233229-15	4703424-17-32	
Serg. Bullock.....	4455445 29	4545552-25-54	90
P.C. Marshall.....	4434444-27	5 01000- 0-36	
Serg. Crank.....	4454511-30	3222533-20-57	88
" Phillips.....	4312133-23	0403122-15-38	
Serg. Bourke.....	2384434-23	0020335-15-35	70
P.C. Ballam.....	4354433-26	0004162- 6-32	

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE. MONTHLY CUP.

This cup was shot for on Thursday morning. The light was good, but a strong gusty N.W. wind made good shooting very difficult. Insp. Wilson made the highest

score, 56, but he being handicapped, Serg. Charters with 55 takes the cup for the first time. The following are the scores over 40:—

	500 yds.	600 yds.	Tl.
Insp. Wilson.....	5314444-28	5354344-28-56	
Serg. Charters.....	4553355-32	2554502-23-55	
" Bullock.....	4454544-30	2442243-21-51	
P.C. Ross.....	4543543-28	4542321 22-50	
Serg. Murphy.....	2542535-26	2245235-23-49	
" Crank.....	4242425-23	2525542 25-48	

THE WINNERS AT THE FOCHOW RACES.

FIRST DAY, FRIDAY.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

- 1.—THE STEWARDS' CUP.—*Witchcraft*.
- 2.—THE MAIDEN STAKES.—*Yarrum*.
- 3.—THE CHAASZE CUP.—*Blitz*.
- 4.—THE COMPRADORES' CUP.—*Nil*.
- 5.—THE STAND STAKES.—*Leo*.
- 6.—THE HONGKONG CUP.—*Vendetta*.
- 7.—THE REAPER CUP.—*Yarrum*.

SECOND DAY, SATURDAY.

- 1.—THE SILVER CUP.—*Fritz*.
 - 2.—THE TOTALISATOR CUP.—*Vendetta*.
 - 3.—THE HAEKWAN CUP.—*Yarrum*.
 - 4.—THE HACK STAKES.—*Tipster*.
 - 5.—THE RACING STAKES.—*Fritz*.
 - 6.—THE FOCHOW STAKES.—*Vendetta*.
 - 7.—THE CLUB CUP.—*Yarrum*.
- N.B.—THE COMPRADORES' CUP on the first day was won by *Wayfoong*.

THIRD DAY, MONDAY.

- 1.—THE TEAMEN'S CUP.—*Uplands*.
- 2.—THE LAGER CUP.—*Wild Wood*.
- 3.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—*Fritz*.
- 4.—THE SILVER CHALLENGE CUP.—*Uplands*.
- 5.—THE CONSOLATION CUP.—*Lansdowne*.
- 6.—THE NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES.—*Wild Wind*.
- 7.—THE CHAMPION STAKES.—*Yarrum*.
- 8.—THE COSMOPOLITAN CUP.—*Witchcraft*.

Correspondence.

PREHISTORIC CHINA.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—The discussion on the above subject last Friday night was lengthy and prolonged to a late hour. Much remained to be said but there was hardly time for further remarks. As it was, the lecturer and speakers may be considered as having treated the topic in hand in a three-fold light—the sceptical, the historical and the mythical,—and all as bearing on the reality or otherwise of the ancient classics. The manner in which Dr. Faber dealt with the subject was interesting, though in its general lines by no means novel or conclusive as to the end he had in view. Though his division of the Chinese characters into so many elementary forms was apparently natural and in order, similar or like divisions have all along obtained, as can be seen by reference to various works on Chinese, while the fact of there being so many or rather so few primitives, on which the whole series of characters seems to have been constructed, does not determine the actual age of the characters or the professed originality of the classic books.

Looking at the matter partly from an outside standpoint, what do we find in reference to our own language? It is composed of a large number of Greek, Latin, and other words which admit of a varied analysis, but it is not to be thought that these words were used in any other form than they now have, composite though that appears to be. They may have assumed a somewhat different aspect, and perhaps meaning too, from what they had at first, but they may have inherited these

in the onward course of time, without having materially been affected in one way or another. In a word, they are in the main what they originally were, however admitting of being reduced to what is called a primary form. And why not so in the case of the Chinese characters? Allowing that 100 elementary forms comprise the whole, that does not assure us of these being the actual or only forms used, when writing may be supposed to have come into play, or when books were first made.

Now this leads on to a further observation. The Chinese language is confessedly a wonderful one. It is made up of a series of characters which have been handed down from time immemorial. As we examine the literature age after age, the same aspect of things presents itself. Works crowd upon us from a remote period, all constructed on the same principle and consisting of the same letters, alike primitive and compound. We have all the evidence of the highest authority in China that we look for and rely on in relation to works of antiquity in western lands. A continuous array of scholars and inscriptions of many and various kinds meets our inquiries as to their character and existence, which there is no more reason to impeach than we have in regard to other ancient documents and similar memorials, and we are the more impressed with this as we hear of discoveries made in Egypt, Assyria, etc., the truthfulness of which we do not stand in doubt of for a moment. Whatever their character, or the subject matter of which they treat they are taken for granted as literally true, though they have not a title of the evidence which the Chinese classics have from their continuous and public use all the ages through. They have been examined, studied, made, if I may so say, the very life-blood of numberless scholars of the highest character, and are the foundation of established institutions, as much so as the records of the Jewish economy and the Christian sacraments, varying in date from 1,800 to at least 4,000 years ago. On one occasion the writer was conversing with the late Dr. Goodwin, a distinguished Egyptologist. He had in his hand a paper of hieroglyphs. I asked him what it was. He said it was, he considered, the oldest record in existence, found in an Egyptian tomb. It referred to old age. On inquiring a few particulars he told me it spoke of that period of life, and that men died when about 110 years of age. I said that was the age of Joseph when he died. He answered in all seriousness, "Precisely so. I have no doubt the writer of that beautiful romance saw this very paper, and seeing that men were supposed to die at that age, he put down Joseph's death at the same period"! Such was the faith of the above honoured scholar in the verity of the paper in question! and the same is the case with regard to all other works found in a like manner. Why should it be otherwise as to the Chinese classics? As far back as one can trace certain works, they are written and go on in the assumption that other works preceded them, and in great measure the one was founded on the other; quotations were drawn from them, distinct allusions were made to them, and on the ground of their reality or unquestioned evidence, their previous existence was taken for granted, and the whole order of things in the affairs of the empire and in social life was thereby determined and carried on. This subject admits of indefinite enlargement but cannot be more fully dwelt on here.

Further, there is nothing in the character of these ancient documents that should make them merely legendary, far less mythical. If, in the matter of a few rural odes, there should be an appearance of trifling, we need not go beyond our own time to find the same thing in current works. In general, it is quite otherwise; the high matters of state and national

character are discussed as positive facts and of deep interest in the history of the country. How different from the legends of what I shall call in haste the Homeric lays! On one occasion Dr. Goodwin was speaking highly of the Chinese *山海經* *Shan-hai-king*, or the classic of the hills and seas, as possibly containing valuable details as to ancient times and things. The late Mr. Wylie was present and quietly remarked, "I beg to say that the work is looked upon by the Chinese much in the same light as we look upon the story of Jack the giant-killer." So the Chinese scholars alike in ancient and modern times are not to be regarded as men who take anything for granted, and equally in the subjects that they investigate and in the manner in which they prosecute their studies we have no reason to think lightly of them, and to boast of our own superior wisdom and discernment.

In fine, I see nothing in the alleged elementary characters to vitiate the argument of the professed antiquity and trustworthiness of the Chinese classics. The exact date may be impossible to define, but whether handed down to us by tradition or actual writing, they appear to us to be in the main what they profess to be, and we are far more disposed to credit the native scholars of early and recent times than the speculations of a few foreigners in still later days. Time and space forbid my pursuing the subject, though I feel as if a whole volume could be written on it.

Yours, &c.,

A STUDENT.

24th December.

Poetry.

A PAPER HUNT INCIDENT.

'Ling See Dan' he was from Kiangsu;
'Tru-Per-Uff' he was a Dutch mann.
They couldn't agree, could these two,
And her-loo was the language of 'Dan',
As the bamboo and clod of mud flew.

Said 'See Dan' "Take that, La-lee-lung,"
As he landed 'Per-Uff' with a clod.
"Oh! I'm a 'Low Hu,' a 'Low mung'
And a stone-throwing son of the sod
For a lone hand to happen among."

"Ah! you're a 'Low mung,' I believe,"
Remarked the brave Dutch mann 'Per-Uff'.
"You 'call,' so it seems, and I grieve
To reply I can shew you enough
To make you feel 'krank,' I believe."

He wheeled and leapt down from his steed.
'Per Uff' and 'See Dan' they met. Crash!
The Dutch mann's left played with such speed
Five times it shot out with a smash,
And 'See Dan' and myself were agreed:

We agreed 'twas bad luck for 'See Dan'
To meet with a light weight so tough,
When he tackled 'Per Uff,' the wrong mann.
And I'm certain he *thinks* it was rough
As I *knew* when the contest began.

Miscellaneous.

THE MOTION OF RAILWAY TRAINS.

Before a large audience, in the Yokohama Public Hall on the evening of the 6th inst., Professor John Milne, under the auspices of the Asiatic Society of Japan, described the new instrument for measuring the motion of railway trains. Mr. N. J. Hanzen, H.B.M.'s Judge, presided.

The Chairman in opening the proceedings, said he supposed it was the office of the Chairman to introduce the lecturer. But he was not only quite sure that the

lecturer required no introduction from him; he thought the lecturer might rather introduce him, as he had been a considerable time away from Japan and there were some who probably did not know his face any more than he knew theirs. They would all be delighted, he felt sure, to hear Mr. Milne describe an instrument which promised to be one of the greatest successes of the age and to make a new era in the scientific measurement of the motions of bodies, in which scientific men were at present interesting themselves.—(Applause.)

Professor Milne, at the outset, said he felt that before beginning his lecture, he ought to make one or two remarks in order that the audience might understand the nature of the subject. When he was asked to come to Yokohama—or rather when he volunteered to come, because he liked to get to Yokohama, a visit to the port always marked a red letter day with him—he understood he was to come here and make a few remarks which would occupy about ten minutes, for he really could describe the machine in that space of time. But he found that instead of being the tail end of a lecture he had to be the lecturer himself, and so he found himself in the position of the man who wanted to go on the stage and play the rôle of *Hamlet*. This man went to a theatre and made his request. He was told he could not at first play *Hamlet*; he must begin at the bottom and gradually work up. They were going to represent a play in which an elephant appeared, and they said he might take the hind legs of the pachyderm. He at first objected but eventually consented to accept this part. Unfortunately, however, the hind part of the elephant never appeared, and he was compelled to remain behind the scenes and listen to the applause of the spectators while the elephant waved its trunk. But at length there came a night when for some reason or another the fore quarters failed, and the front part of the elephant collapsed. This was his opportunity, and he at once rushed on the stage and waved the tail.—(Laughter.) This was the position in which the lecturer found himself on this occasion. The title of his lecture—with which he disclaimed any connection—was "The measurement of the motion of railway trains." Now, to those scientific gentlemen who were present, and he saw several, this title would indicate something rather dry,—centres of percussion and axes of oscillation, and moments of inertia, and things like those; while to ordinary persons the motion of trains generally meant their progress from one place to another. They might measure the motion by distance or they might measure it by the fare and say that it was 60 cents or so much between Tokio and Yokohama. But he did not think many people who travelled in trains considered how far they really moved while on a journey. The distance that they actually travelled was much greater than the distance between their places of departure and arrival. The distance travelled between Yokohama and Tokio was not 17½ miles: it might be 100 miles; that all depended on the kind of carriage one took; and if one rode on a locomotive it would be very great indeed. With these few remarks he would commence what he had to say about these instruments. What he wished to do was to give the company rather the history of an invention than a description of the invention itself. He would tell them how these instruments came to be invented; of the troubles Mr. McDonald and himself had to encounter; how they were invented; how it happened that he was going to Europe, and the instruments and himself were nearly lost, though the instruments, being in an upper berth, had the best of it. They went to America and thence to Europe where they fell into the hands of promoters, and directors of railways, and

general managers, and at length he got weary and worn out and finished and returned to Japan. The invention of the instrument was an accident. One day at Shinbashi he met Mr. McDonald, who, talking about his locomotives, said some of them jolted more than others; some were very unpleasant to ride upon. He had tried to measure the motion of them—there was no doubt about the jolting; it could be felt. Mr. McDonald had made experiments, as many people had done before him; he had taken among other things a bottle of water and observed the oscillation of the water in it, but this was productive of no useful results. They experimented then with instruments, but were met by the problem how to secure a steady body. Unless one had ridden on a locomotive one could hardly realise what that meant. The first time that he rode on a locomotive was, he thought, between Shinbashi and Yokohama and he had such an experience that he was sick afterwards for just one week. But this line was constructed as well as any he had travelled on; it was as good as the Pennsylvania Central or the London and North-western. If they took the southern parts of California where the lines were put down rapidly and the engines were hung on the springs differently the motion was terrific: one was not merely knocked but banged from side to side. All sorts of things were blown in one's face and altogether it was a perfect tornado as compared with lines in this country. The question was how to measure anything moving about in this way. Let them imagine this room a carriage twisting in all sorts of ways at the same time, not with the nice easy motion of an earthquake—he did not want to talk of earthquakes to-night—(laughter)—and then let them try to measure the motion from the inside. The great thing was to get hold of a steady point—seismographs were too delicate for such violent work—and eventually they made the combination which he now showed. To register the motion of a railway carriage three movements were required: one to mark the transverse or side to side motion, one the fore and aft or longitudinal motion, and one the vertical motion. Mr. Milne then explained that in the instrument a point practically steady was secured to record the vertical movement by a lever poised on a spring. For the transverse movement two brass cylinders were provided, one suspended from the top and the other poised from below, the movement of one neutralising that of the other and thus securing also a practically steady point; and for the fore and aft motion the arrangement was the same, except that the lever was so contrived that it would register on the slip of paper as the others. By means of those three movements they could plot the actual motion that had taken place. The record was made by pencils dropped through pointers at the ends of the levers, on a web of paper which was unwound by clockwork at the rate of about an inch per minute from one roller, and wound on another after receiving the record. The machine now shown was only a working model; there were other types, some with only the vertical motion which even alone gave a very useful diagram. After the machine was made, it happened that he went to Europe and he took it with him. He had some very valuable diagrams that he desired to have photographed. They had been written with brass wire on metallic paper, a process which he thought at first would be superior to writing with pencils, which required sharpening often, but afterwards he found that the wire point became glazed and incapable of recording on the metallic paper. The diagrams represented a journey that Mr. McDonald had made from Tokio to Yokohama and on to the south of Fuji, and they showed every curve, every grade, every bridge, and the various points of the line with the length of the stoppages—were in

short worth having. Professor Burton at first thought the colour of the writing would have to be altered prior to photographing it, but eventually consented to try it as it was, the chemists having declared that the colour could not be altered. Professor Burton applied some chemical and soon there was nothing left but white paper, but he then called for ammonia or something else and the writing gradually came out a bright red. On getting on board the steamer the lecturer put the instruments in an upper berth, but about the third day out he thought he would look at the diagrams and on opening the envelope found them nothing but white paper.—(Laughter.) He did not know what to do for some time but at length he decided to consult the doctor. The latter, when he went down among the water to his cabin, said, "I hope you are not worse." The professor said "No. I want to consult you to see if you can develop some diagrams." The doctor got out the same chemical that Professor Burton had used and the diagrams came out all right again. In California the engineers were very much pleased with the diagrams, and he had permission to ride on the trains. It was very rough to ride on the locomotives. He could never forget one experience that he had there. The fireman and engineer smiled at him as he held on to the box containing the instrument. He could feel that everything was loose inside; that the whole thing was mixed up; and when asked how it had recorded said he would not look. He got off the locomotive, black and dirty, and, having washed himself, opened the box. The whole affair was knocked to pieces; all the screws being drawn. There was too much multiplication; and accordingly he altered the type of machine very considerably. He travelled through Arizona, New Mexico, the Grand Cañon, deserts, and all sorts of places, meeting some curious adventures. At New York he filed a patent, but at the outset found he had to encounter serious difficulties. When he applied it was discovered that there had been already a patent taken out for these instruments by Professor John Milne, of Japan—(laughter)—and he had the utmost difficulty in proving that he was himself.—(Laughter.) He was there a stranger in the great capital and it was a matter of great correspondence—in fact he thought his correspondence on the subject would fill two such boxes as those containing the instruments—to prove his identity. In England he felt pretty much as if he had a Frankenstein with him. Directly he opened the box to take a diagram on the London and North Western Railway—the box itself looked suspicious—a gentleman looked at him and said "Sir, excuse me; is that thing timed to go off?"—(Laughter.) He replied, "No; it was simply for recording the motions of the train." That trouble chased him the whole time. He could not leave the instrument in the cloak-room of the station because it was ticking away the whole time and so he had to move about with the box in his hand.—(Laughter.) He was continually being questioned too:—"Was it timed to go off?" and so on till the only thing left was to take the instrument out and explain that this was the centre of percussion, this the axis of oscillation, and these the steady points. Sometimes he rode officially and even then he had a good deal of trouble. One company treated him remarkably well. They gave him a carriage, the instruments were put down, and an engineer put in to watch the operation. He made the journey from England to Scotland, which occupied the greater part of the day. The first engineer put in with him was simply charmed with the machine. The lecturer explained the general principles; this being the centre of percussion and that the axis of oscillation and so on—(laughter)—till he got to the end of that engineer's section and another engineer

came on, in about two hours. Then he had to begin again and explain that this was the centre of percussion and this the axis of oscillation and so on till at length he got quite hoarse. He had three different sets of engineers, and he explained all the details, having to shout out while the train, going at the rate of 60 miles per hour, was swaying from side to side. Well, this lasted till about four in the afternoon, when he got to the borders of Scotland and another line began. Here a deputation of two elderly men appeared dressed in long coats as if they had come from the Arctic regions. They got in, sat down beside the instrument and did not speak. Remembering that they were sent to see the machine and report on it, Mr. Milne began to explain that this was the centre of percussion and this the axis of oscillation (laughter) and when he got thus far one man on the right said "Eh?"—(Laughter). The Professor then began to talk about moments of inertia on which the other man said "Aye!" and so it went on till he got to the end of his explanation thoroughly tired. At last they relapsed into silence, and the train went rattling along, till one of his companions asked, "Do you come from Japan?" He replied "Yes." The stranger then asked "Can you get Scotch whisky there?"—(Laughter.) He said "Scotch whisky, Sir? You can get it at 1s. 3d. a bottle, while here you have to pay—(the rest of the sentence was lost in the laughter of the audience). The result on his questioner was as if the latter had received an electric shock. He jumped up and ejaculated "Scotch whisky in Japan? How much did you say?" quite vivaciously. He had struck a tender chord—(laughter)—and they were the best of friends after that. On another occasion he met one of the greatest mathematicians and physicists now living, and one of the cleverest inventors, a man who was always appealed to when there was anything difficult to solve. He put the instrument on the floor and watched it, and then put it on the seat, and then he began to speak of Japan. He said the other day there was an earthquake (to avoid the use of the word earthquake he would call it a seismic disturbance). Here the lecturer expressed his regret that he had missed the most interesting earthquake they ever had in Japan—a shock which caused the water in a fish pond to run in a wave to one end and then back to the other. The gentleman he had just referred to said two hours after that earthquake there were disturbances in France and England and Germany. How long he asked would it take to go through the earth? They set to and made an interesting calculation on the point, and at the finish the eminent physicist asked him, "Do you know why I took 16,000,000 as the basis of my calculation? Because I could take the square root more easily—four times four make sixteen!"—(Laughter). He had many interesting trips in Great Britain and even in France, and took a lot of diagrams. He found himself then in an awkward position. There were this company and that all competing against one another, and if he stated that from the diagrams 6 or 7 bridges on one road were deficient and the roadway bad, people would take another line at the same money. All he could do then was to say, "Here are the diagrams" and throw them out. Coming back now to America. He had to cross the United States very rapidly and he took a diagram all the way, of which he showed at the meeting about a thousand miles' record wound up on rollers. Even in taking that he had almost to keep awake both day and night. He travelled with the same people all the way through. There were a good many children about, and the instrument got to be known as the Professor's "brass baby."—(Laughter.) Turning to a diagram hung on the wall of the hall, the lecturer explained that this was the record of the vertical movement on a

train between Shimbashi and Yokohama. The paper was divided into minutes. The train left Shimbashi at 1.30 and in seven minutes arrived at Shinagawa; waited there four minutes, arrived at Omori in twenty minutes after starting, stopped there two minutes and a similar space of time at Kawasaki, and so on to Yokohama. Looking at the record he could say that the journey occupied exactly 59 minutes instead of 55 as the time-table provided. Let them make a supposition: that the passengers had lost a connecting train or the signalman had become confused and an accident had occurred. The traffic manager could at once localise the delay by referring to the diagram. It was no matter of statement; there it was on the record. During his 3,300 mile ride across America they came once to a place where locomotives were kept. One of these came out and for some reason or another went off the line in front of the train he was in, and it took a couple of hours to clear away the obstruction. It was all in the diagram to a quarter of a minute. Then again at Ogden (he thought), near Salt Lake, about ten at night they heard torpedoes explode; that means danger, and going cautiously they arrived at a freight train all in pieces on the line. That took them five hours, and the whole time was accurately noted in the diagram. Between Shimbashi and Shinagawa they could see that on the diagram there was a line projecting farther outward than the body of the record. He did not pretend to say what it was; it might be a bridge or a culvert, but whether the instrument went in a carriage or on the locomotive there the excrescence appeared. He also pointed to the difference in the size of the records between Shimbashi and Shinagawa and between the latter station and Omori and said this was interesting from a geological point of view. He thought the difference arose from the fact that the first section was on soft ground which bent under the train—somewhat in the same way as in some parts of California, where a wave actually ran before the engine. Between Omori and Kawasaki there was a remarkable excrescence about the 29½ minutes point. Before he went away there was always a similar mark on the record and it was quite clear that there was something. But he had had experience of the big bridges in America, and he could say there was no need to be alarmed. Nothing could be seen or felt, and he believed whatever it was it was remedied now. There were other distinctive marks on the diagram which might be due to curves or culverts, but in any case the person inspecting the line could put his finger on the exact spots that wanted repairs.—(Applause.) Now, if the paper on the machine was running rapidly they would find on it long wavy lines if the record were taken behind a particular locomotive, and a line with smaller waves if behind another. This, represented by the longitudinal motion, indicated a succession of jerks and a consequent waste of power, and unnecessary expenditure of steam and coal. Let them take two locomotives. Both had been made from the same drawings. Everything about them was the same so far as could be seen; they ran on the same line and the only difference to be found was in the balance of the wheel. He pointed to drawings of two wheels, one of 14 spokes and the other of 13 spokes. In the one case a mass of metal to counterbalance the weight of the driving bar was inserted in the spaces of three spokes; in the other it filled the space of four. If the two weights were not balanced there would be a drag and a loss of power at certain points. Thus the locomotive showing a large wavy line record would burn 27½ lbs. of coal per mile while the other would only burn 23 lbs. There was a difference of 4 lbs. for every mile that

those engines travelled. He would take 3,000 miles per month as the distance covered by an engine in that time; that meant 12,000 lbs., which, taking roughly 2,000 lbs. to the ton, would be about 6 tons. But, not to over-estimate, he would call it 5 tons. That would be 60 tons per annum. One engine did the same work as the other, but burned 60 tons of coal more per annum in doing it. How many locomotives were there in Japan? There might be a hundred, perhaps two, but he would call it 50,—3,000 tons every year. Taking that at 6 yen per ton, they would find that 18,000 yen worth of coal more than need be if this instrument was in use, were burned upon lines in this country. Theoretically it might be said that the balance was bad; that there was also a vertical movement to be considered; but he did not think that there had ever been a single accident in this country from that cause, if there had been he had never heard of it. Briefly then there was something in these diagrams for the traffic manager; something for the inspecting engineer (one might have lines in South America and still know from the diagrams what was happening there); and there was something for both the civil and the mechanical engineer. The last record the paper bore was on the borders of the Pacific Ocean at a place bearing some classical name, and where there was a ferry. There was a jolt as they went on the ferry, the machine indicating nothing while going across—it would though in rough weather—and another jolt as they got off on the other side. He felt extremely pleased when he saw the Pacific, and knew that his journey across the United States was finished. He felt that he had a diagram from one ocean to the other. He went across to get it and he now had it here, though he intended to send it over for the inspection of engineers in America and Europe. In conclusion he thanked the company very much for their very kind attention and trusted that he had not been too scientific.—(Loud and continued applause.)

The lecture was listened to throughout with the utmost interest.—*Japan Mail.*

NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

At Ichang silver is cheap and good copper cash are dear. Most of the cash that pass hands in business there are at present little coins the size of goose-eyes. The reason of the scarcity of copper cash is said to be the burning down of a great pawn-shop at Changshafu, Honan, containing about \$300,000 of pawned property. The demand for good cash to compensate the owners has drained the market of them even at this considerable distance from Changshafu.

At Nanchangfu, capital of Kiangsi, the salt-dealers are making huge profits. For 600 catties they pay Tls. 19. At the present exchange the salt thus costs them 45 or 46 cash a catty, and they retail it to their customers at 56 cash. The sharp ones are giving the public 20 ounces or 24 ounces to the catty, and thus completely cutting out their more scrupulous competitors who only give 18 ounces.—*Shên Pao.*

A boy named Chang Pao-êrh, fifteen years old, the son of a very poor family, who made a living as a donkey boy, was accosted on 28th November by a man who said he wanted to hire his donkey to carry a load for him by way of the Teh-sheng Gate, from Haitien, where they were, to a place in the country. A bargain was struck, and they started on their way, nothing unusual occurring until they were 10 li outside the Teh-sheng Gate, out in the country, when the man suddenly drew a sword, dealt Pao-êrh a violent blow, wounding him both in the neck and the hand, and made off with the donkey. The

poor boy was taken to Peking, and the native police were put on the track of the robber. A good Samaritan named Ts'in at once set off for the Sze P'ai-low to look for the Western doctor Teh Tai-fu (Dr. Dudgeon?), who took charge of the child, and in a few days his neck, in which he had received what seemed very like a mortal wound, was in a fair way of healing. Mr. Ts'in now found out the boy's father, took him to the Doctor, to thank him for saving his son's life, and himself begged the acceptance of \$30 as a medical fee. The Doctor, however, steadfastly declined to accept anything, saying that he was here in China by order of his sovereign to render to the suffering all the assistance which his skill could compass. Chang and the boy at these words prostrated themselves on the ground and audibly knocked head in gratitude. Mr. Ts'in then presented the father with \$40 to pay for his son's expenses during convalescence. It is a pleasant task to record the Doctor's kindness and skill and Ts'in's disinterested benevolence.

Wang, district magistrate of Chenhai Hien (Ningpo), has instituted and maintains a life-boat service at his own expense. A reward of \$6 is given besides by him for every person rescued from drowning, and \$1 for every dead body saved from the water for decent burial. Eight lives have been already saved by this means, and over 20 bodies recovered.

As will be seen from a notification in our advertisement sheet to-day (20th December), Shêng Taotai, Director General of Telegraphs, already so well known in connection with famine relief, has issued an order that the various telegraph *bureaux* are to pay to the fathers or mothers of the telegraph cadets half of the salary earned by those young gentlemen, who might otherwise, in their inexperience of the world and ignorance of the value of money, be tempted to spend it too freely on follies to the neglect of their filial duties.—*Hu Pao.*

The *Hu Pao* of 21st December gives a list of the members of the recently established Haikün Yamên, or Board of Admiralty. This list comprises 31 persons, of whom 14 are Manchus, 11 Chinese, and 6 Mongols. The President is the Manchu Prince Ch'ün, commonly called the Seventh Prince, father of the Emperor. The two Vice-Presidents are the Manchu Prince K'ing, who is also President of the Tsungli Yamên, and Li Hung-chang, Viceroy of Chihli. In the next rank come Chang Yao, Governor of Shantung, and the Marquis Tsêng Ki-tseh, the three last named being Chinese.

The ancients said of dreams: The perfect man has no dreams, and the stupid man also has them not. Why is this so? Dreams are induced by the thoughts which have passed through the mind during the day. Hence the perfect man, whose conscience at once dictates to him what to do, who performs all his duties with spontaneous unfettered grace, dreams not; and the stupid man, gross in his ideas as a deer or a hog, incapable of soaring into the sky of thought as is a log or stone, goes out by day and goes through his routine of business, goes in at night and sinks into his leaden repose, eats when he is hungry and sleeps when he is satiated. He also, like the perfect man, has not used his brain, not because he needed not, but because he could not. The result in his case is the same; he does not dream.

So said the ancients, and as regards the stupid man perhaps they were right, but we beg leave to differ about the "perfect" man, as they called him, i.e. the clever man. We think history shows that he as well as the mediocre man has had his visions of the night, and the following are two noteworthy instances of those visions bringing good fortune to the dreamer.

More than 3,000 years ago, the Yellow River was China's sorrow as it is now. The capital of the Empire had to be trans-

ferred from site to site in compliance with this mighty and turbulent stream's vagaries, and one notable instance is the exodus led by P'an K'eng, and recorded in the *Shu King*, or Canonical Book of History, from the north of the Huangho to Yin on the south of it, in the present district of Yen-shihien, Honanfu, Honan province; a remove in consequence of which the dynastic title was changed from Shang to Yin, a name which continued for 250 years up to 1,122 B.C. King P'an-k'eng dreamed that God gave him a good minister, caused search to be made for the man answering to the description of the vision, of which he had a likeness circulated far and wide, and found the original in the person of Fu Yüeh. Chow, canonised as Wên Wang, founder of the Chow dynasty which ousted the last-named, the Yin, from the throne, dreamed that a flying bear entered his mosquito-curtain. Inspired by the auspicious omen, he crossed the turbid Wei, a large tributary of the Yellow River, in south Shensi, on a hunting expedition. There he met T'ai Kung Wang, spoke to him, and, pleased with his replies, took him up on one of his chariots. From this meeting dated the accession of T'ai Kung Wang to power, of which he made good use by assisting Wu Wang, the son of his patron, in hurling Chow Sin, the debauched tyrant who was the last of the Yins, from the throne which he dishonoured, and seating himself thereupon as the first of the Chows. The Chow Li, or Chow Ritual, an elaborate detail of the various officers under that dynasty with their respective duties, written during its early days, contains many directions for the taking of the auguries from dreams. These were the books which nine hundred years later Shi Hwang-ti, the first universal Emperor, was so anxious to burn in order to deal the last blow at the feudal system which his united Empire had succeeded; but they still exist and occupy the next place after the Books of Changes, History, and Odes, as an ancient classic in the estimation of the Chinese. The Book of Poetry (*Shi King*) tells us that to dream of bears portends the birth of sons; of snakes, that of daughters; of fish, a fat harvest; of flags, a flourishing family. The rainbow and the swallow are also auspicious omens.—*Shên Pao.*

Law Reports.

THE LOSS OF THE BRITISH SHIP NYLGHAU.

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was held at the Harbour Master's Office, Hongkong, on the 14th and 16th inst., to enquire into the circumstances attending the loss of the British ship *Nylghau*, which was wrecked on the Pratas Reef on the 16th November. The Court consisted of: Captain Rumsey, R.N., President; Lient McFarlane, H.M. S. *Victor Emmanuel*; Captain W. H. Smith, of the *Arabic*, Captain Farrand, of the *Propontis*, Captain Robb, of the *Strathearn*. The following is the finding of the Court:—

We find that the British ship *Nylghau*, official number 80,617, of Yarmouth, N.S., of which Watson Baker Butler, whose certificate of competency as master is 1990 of Canada, was master, left Singapore on the 1st November, 1889, bound for Hongkong with a crew of 17 all told and a full cargo of timber.

That having worked up the Luzon coast until the 24th November in lat 17.43 N. and long 119.58 E., having got the north-east monsoon, the ship was headed across the China sea for Hongkong, but that on the evening of the 25th at about 8.10 p.m. she struck on the Pratas Shoal and was there abandoned.

It appears from the evidence of the master, who is the only competent witness

before the court on the subject, that at noon on the 25th November the ship was in a position in lat. 20.16 N. and long. 118 E. That at 4 p.m. on that day she was further allowed to have gone 18 miles N.W. In this position the master seeing that the wind was falling and the ship "breaking off" determined to pass to the southward of the Pratas Shoal and with that intention set the course due west.

The assumed position at 4 p.m. was 40 miles E. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. from the eastern extremity of the Pratas Shoal and seeing that the ship struck somewhere on the eastern edge of the shoal at about 8.10 p.m., this would make the distance of 49 miles run in rather less than four hours, which seeing the state of the wind and weather the Court considers is extremely improbable; and they are inclined to the belief that either the master's observations placed the ship too far to the S.E. or that the ship experienced a W.N.W. set during the afternoon of the 25th, a set which the Admiralty chart 1661 states was experienced by H.M.S. *Encounter* in February, 1883, the period of the N.E. monsoon.

It appears that the compass had not been adjusted for more than one year, and though it is probable that this did not contribute to the casualty we are of opinion that therein the master did not use due caution.

The ship does not appear to have been prematurely abandoned and after the casualty all steps were taken that the circumstances permitted for the safety of the crew.

The entire crew left the ship in two boats. One of these has not been heard of since the morning of the 27th, when she was sighted apparently all well by the master in the other boat. Unsuccessful search has been made for her by H.M.S. *Cockchafer*. She was in charge of the mate, John Briggs, and contained six seamen in addition and appears to have left the ship properly found.

We are of opinion that the master would have displayed sounder judgment if he had carried out the recommendation given in the chart and in the sailing directions to pass to the southward of the Pratas Shoal. But we consider this omission to have been an error in judgment and not a wrongful act or default and we do not deal with his certificate, which is therefore now returned to him.

Given under our hands at Hongkong this 16th day of November, 1882.

R. MURRAY RUMSEY, President of the Court.

J. W. McFARLANE, Nav. Lieut., R.N.

JOHN ROBE.

W. H. SMITH, R.N.R.

—Daily Press.

AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM A VETERAN.

As this is Jubilee year it tends to make one look back and think of the flight of time, and in this way I am reminded that I am one of the veterans in the sale of your valuable and successful medicine. I have sold it from the very first, and have sent it into every county in England and many parts of Scotland. Well do I remember the first circular you sent out some nine or ten years ago. You had come to England from America to introduce Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and I was struck by a paragraph in which you used these words:—"Being a stranger in a strange land, I do not wish the people to feel that I want to take the least advantage over them. I feel that I have a remedy that will cure disease, and I have so much confidence in it that I authorise my agents to refund the money if people should say that they have not benefitted by its use." I felt at once that you would never say that unless the medicine had merit, and I applied for the agency, a step which I now looked back upon with pride and satisfaction.

Ever since that time I have found it by far the best remedy for Indigestion and Dyspepsia I have met with, and I have sold thousands

of bottles. It has never failed in any one case where there were any of the following symptoms:—Nervous or sick headache, sourness of the stomach, rising of the food after eating, a sense of fullness and heaviness, dizziness, bad breath, slime and mucus on the gums and teeth, constipation, and, yellowness of the eyes and skin, dull and sleepy sensations, ringing in the ears, heartburn, loss of appetite, and, in short, wherever there are signs that the system is clogged, and the blood is out of order. Upon repeated enquiries, covering a great variety of ailments, my customers have always answered, "I am better," or "I am perfectly well." What I have seldom or never seen before in the case of any medicine is that people tell each other of its virtues, and those who have been cured say to the suffering:—"Go and get Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, it will make you well." Out of the hundreds of cures I will name one or two that happen to come into my mind.

Two old gentlemen, whose names they would not like to give you, had been martyrs to Indigestion and Dyspepsia for many years. They had tried all kinds of medicine without relief. One of them was so bad he could not bear a glass of ale. Both were advised to use the Syrup and both recovered, and were as hale and hearty as men in the prime of life.

A remarkable case is that of a house painter named Jeffries, who lived at Penshurst, in Kent. His business obliged him to expose himself a great deal to wind and weather, and he was seized with rheumatism, and his joints soon swelled up with dropsy, and were very stiff and painful. Nothing that the doctors could do seemed to reach the seat of the trouble. It so crippled him that he could do hardly any work, and for the whole of the winter of 1878 and '79, he had to give up and take to his bed. He had been afflicted in this sorry way for three years, and was getting worn out and discouraged. Besides, he had spent over £13 for with he called "doctor's stuff" without the least benefit. In the Spring he heard of what Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup has done for others and bought a 2s. 6d. bottle of me. In a few days he sent me word he was much better—before he had finished the bottle. He then sent to me for a 4s. 6d. bottle, and as I was going that way I carried it down to him myself. On getting to his house what was my astonishment and surprise to find him out in the garden weeding an onion bed. I could hardly believe my own eyes, and said:—

"You ought not to be out here, man, it may be the death of you, after being laid up all winter with rheumatism and dropsy."

His reply was:—"There is no danger. The weather is fine, and Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup has done for me in a few days what the doctors could not do in three years. I think I shall get well now."

He kept on with the Syrup, and in three weeks he was at work again, and has had no return of the trouble for now nearly ten years. Any medicine that can do this should be known all over the world.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) RUPERT GRAHAM,
OF GRAHAM & SON.

Holloway House, Sunbury,
Middlesex,

June 25th, 1887.

The above wonderful cure of Rheumatism was the result of the remarkable power of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup to cleanse the blood of the poisonous humours that arise from Indigestion and Dyspepsia.

Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup is for sale by all chemists and medicine vendors, and by the proprietors, A. J. White, Limited, 35, Farringdon Road, London, Eng.

(3) alt o-a-f tf 37

A MOST USEFUL AND CONVENIENT LITTLE COOKERY BOOK has just been issued gratis by The Liebig Company, shewing the hundred and one ways in which their Extract of Beef can be used in preparation of soups, game, poultry, fish, sauces, gravies, vegetables, cold and hot meats, and invalid cookery. There are 152 capital recipes contained in this little book, embracing a wide range of the culinary art, and cooks and others interested in preparing the good things of the table, or nutritious food for the sick room, cannot do better than write to the editor of this paper for a copy.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines (space *Bourgeois*) and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, payable in advance.

SUBSCRIPTIONS received, and Single Copies sold, by Messrs. STREET & Co.,

30, Cornhill,

LONDON (E.C.)

Advertisements.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON & CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

CAPITAL£750,000
RESERVE LIABILITY£750,000

Head Office: 65, Old Broad St., London, E.C.

Branches and Sub-Branches:

Bombay, Colombo, Penang,
Calcutta, Kandy, Malacca,
Macras, Galle, Batavia,
Rangoon, Singapore, Hongkong.

London Bankers:

BANK OF ENGLAND.

LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.

Shanghai Branch:

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at 2% on Daily Balances.

Current Accounts may also be opened in Dollars on terms which may be had on application.

Interest allowed on Fixed Deposits:—

12 months' notice at 5%
6 " " 4%
3 " " 3%

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.

Loans and Credits granted on approved securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business connected with the East transacted.

F. C. BISHOP.

Manager.

254
31jy-88 c.a. Shanghai, 1st August, 1887.

Scottish Union & National Insurance Company Edinburgh & London, FIRE AND LIFE.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

Capital£6,000,000

Invested Funds, £3,300,000. Annual

Income, £740,000.

FIRE Insurances effected at current rates.

Terms and particulars of Life Insurances may be had on application to

WELCH, LEWIS & Co.,

Agents in Shanghai.

no-a-w 2au-87 390 Shanghai, 13th Aug., 1886.

COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

19 & 20, CORNHILL, LONDON.

CAPITAL,—£2,500,000.

THE undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept Risks against Fire at current rates.

LAVERS & Co.

no-a-w 18de 791 Shanghai, 15th Dec., 1887.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 26th December, 1889.

PIECE GOODS—This week has been a busy one, some very large transactions having taken place, although, owing to the continued reticence of sellers, the sales reported do not run into very startling figures, in fact they merely give a bare outline of what has been done. Buyers for the North have been actively picking up cheap parcels and seem to have still considerable funds to invest. In addition to this some large lines for forward delivery are also mentioned, at higher rates certainly, but they do not look so favorable when compared with cash prices at the present exchange. 8-4-ls. and the heavier weights of *Grey Shirtings*, together with 64-reed *White Shirtings*, have met with most demand, while *T. Cloths* are not altogether neglected, the caterers for Foochow taking fair quantities for shipment thence after the native New Year. Operators for the River appear to be most out of it, and to the dullness of those markets must be attributed the large falling off lately in deliveries. In connection with this it is interesting to note the sale to the Imperial Maritime Customs of the s.s. *Kuling*, built expressly for the navigation of the Upper Yangtze, which, together with certain movements of some of the members of the Customs staff in that direction, leads to the expectation that we will be in steam communication with the great central marts of China sooner than was anticipated.

The Public Sales, which have been held in spite of the holidays, all show firm rates, although in the case of Woollens it is very slight. Lat-lat-ti-gaus from Manchester quote the market up a penny and very strong, which should have a strengthening effect this side.

Statistics.—The comparative table of the annual export to Tientsin, given on the page 790, does not call for any particular remark. The off-take has been quite up to the average, and the only item worthy of special notice is the large increase in Bombay Cotton Yarn.

Grey Shirtings.—8-4-lbs.—The sales of which particulars have been procurable amount to fully 70,000 pieces, but the actual quantity must be far more than that. Prices run as follows—*Mure and Fo-l* £1.39, *Blue Pheasant* £1.40, *Blue Fish* £1.49, *Red Rhinoceros* and *Red Cormorant* £1.57 net, *Silver Syce* £1.57½ (less 1 per cent.), *Red 8 Woman* £1.62½, *Blue Goose* £1.65, *Green 8 Ponies* and *Red Joss* £1.70, *Green Dragon* and 5 Men £1.73, *Blue 7 Children* £1.74/75, *Silver Plate* £1.83, &c. For forward delivery holders are strong, but are willing to meet the market to a certain extent for prompt payment. Auction rates are slightly higher for all grades.

6-lbs. and 7-lbs.—These continue to advance slowly but surely at auction, no sales beyond those being reported.

9-12 to 11-lbs.—The market has been very active and a large business done, chiefly for delivery during February, but only comparatively few particulars have transpired—prices made public being—*Lee-tai Bout* at £2.00 (cash), *Dowhurst Eagle* (Pao-shun) £2.21, *Silver Plate* £2.22½, *Tai-wo Stag* £2.24, *Blue Dragon* and 5 Old Men (a large line) £2.25 and *Lee-tai Huntsman* £2.26.

12 lbs.—36-inch—Sales of about 20,000 pieces are mentioned—*Two Soldiers* £2.27½, *Fisherman* and *John Bull* and *Truth* £2.42 and *Man and Arrow* £2.42½—the market being firm for good makes.

White Shirtings.—64-reed.—Including the forward transactions settlements cannot be far short of 75,000 pieces, of which are mentioned—*Mazepa* and *Flower Basket* £1.52½, *Tai-long Wild Boar* £1.62, *Green Cock* £1.62½, *Gold 3 Men* £1.73, *Red Dragon* and *Gold 2 Lion* and *Flag* £1.77½, *Koong-bing Blue Stag* (25,000 pieces to arrive) £1.87½ net, *Blue Cock* £1.91 (cash) *Tai Wo Stag* £1.91½, *Silver Dragon King* &c., &c. Rates keep steady at auction and the market may be called firm generally.

72-reed.—These continued to attract very little attention and we only hear of sales to extent of about 5,000 pieces, at £2.17 for *Gold 2 Eagle* and £2.27 for *Gold 2 Deer*.

White Irishes.—A good indent business at satisfactory rates has again been done.

T. Cloths.—7-lbs.—Fair sales, amounting to about 20,000 pieces, have been taken place, as follows:—*Round Serpent* £1.06½, *Man and Elephant* £1.17½, *Galloping Horse* £1.19½, *Three Fish* £1.21½, *Blue Dragon* and *Flag* £1.25 and *Red Man* and *Fish* £1.26, and a good line of *Eye chop*, for Newchwang, on private terms.

8-lbs.—No further sales reported, the market being quiet but steady.

Drills.—Nothing, apparently, has been done, saving a few *English* at about £2.30.

Jeans.—No transactions reported, market nominally steady.

Sheetings.—This week the only sale has been a few *American*, under *Bucks Head*, chop at £2.63, and a resale of 10,000 pieces *Eagle* and *Flag* at £2.59. Last week *Three Sheep* at £2.50 was omitted. Business is apparently stopped by the firmness of holders. In *English* nothing is reported, though offers at low rates continue to be made.

Cotton Yarn.—*English*—Quiet but steady. The sale of 30 bales *Double Stork* and *Vase* 3-fold 32s. at £85 is quoted.

Bombay.—The cheap prices have attracted the Tientsin buyers and a larger business has taken place. Rates are very weak and declining for most 16s. and common 20s., but otherwise show no change. Sales amount to 3,073 bales.

No. 10s., 115 bales.—*Fromjee Prithi (Lion)* £51, *Imperial* £51½/52 and *Connaught* £53½.

No. 12s., 12 bales.—*Connaught* £53.

No. 16s., 2,231 bales.—*Hindustan* £53½, *Lakmidass* £54½, *Western India* (500 bales) £55, *Mazagon* and *Dhun* £55½, *Suzrain* £55½, *Kunsara* £56½, *David Mill* £56 90/57 and *E. D. Sassoon's Dragon* (1,300 bales) £58.

20s., 715 Bales.—(*Sholera* (Cocutt's) £56, *Gordon* £56½, *Broach* £57½, *Gitar*, *Palki*, *Someri Mahal* and *Gujarat* £57½, *Jubilee* £57½, *Amjnd Bugh* £58, *Howard* and *Bulough* £58½, *James Greaves* £58½, *Connaught* £59 40/59½ and *E. D. Sassoon's Dragon* £62.

Fancy Goods.—A speculative business has been done this week, several old parcels being cleared off at cheap rates, chiefly in *Cotton Lustings*—3,000 pieces *Assorted* going at £1.80 for *Plain* and £2.35 for *Figured*. *Gentian Plain Cotton Italians* have sold at £2.40, but the demand is limited. Sales of *Printed T. Cloths* at £1.35 for *Fancy* and £1.32½ for *Indigo* are mentioned. *Velvets* and *Velveteens* are dull and dropping. *Turkey Reds* keep steady, 1,500 pieces 3-lbs. *Fish* and *Tow-r* selling at £1.30. *Gentian* and *Scarlet Cotton Spanish Stripes* have changed hands at £0.17½, and a miscellaneous assortment of goods have been sold at auction at extremely low prices.

Woollens.—The only private sale reported is *J.M. No. 12 Black Lustings* at £8.10. At auction the usual goods have realised rather steeper prices this week, especially the best chop of *Spanish Stripes*, but the market is without strength. There does appear to be any private enquiry to speak of, deliveries, however, are rather more brisk.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa* (new) £305, (old) £195, *Patna* (new) £377, *Benares* (new) £375.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Comie & Burkill's Circular of 27th December:—London telegrams report market firm. *Red Pagoda II* 15s., *Blue Elephant* 14s., *Gold Killing* 12s. Deliveries to 23rd instant, *Chinas* 800 bales, *Cantons* 200 bales, and *Japans* 200 bales.

RAW SILKS.—There has been a steady business doing, settlements for the week adding up to 2,000 bales, and the market closes very firm at an advance of about £5 for *Teatlees* of medium and low grades.

TEATLEES.—Settlements about 1,200 bales.

HANGCLOWS.—No business to report.

TAYSAMS.—Purchases are about 70 bales *White Kahing* and 30 bales *Green Kahing* at quotations.

YELLOW SILKS.—Purchases of 150 bales are re-ported at £220 for *Mienyangs*, £223 for *Fooyungs*, and £227½ for *Wangyi*.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 19th to the 24th December are 379 bales of *White Silks*, 200 piculs of *Yellow Silks* and 210 piculs of *Tussah Raw*.

RE-REELS.—Small business at £340 for good common.

WILD SILKS.—About 400 bales have changed hands at £120 a 140 for common to good quality.

WASTE SILKS.—Little doing with the exception of *Tussah Coccons*, which have changed hands at £64 per picul.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—No business.

Purchases include:—**TEATLEES.**—*Beautiful Woman II* at £405, *Bird "Fung-ling"* at £390, *Bird "Chun-ling"* at £360, *Yellow Elephant* at £362½, *Green Elephant* at £335, *Gold Elephant* at £360, *Gold Lion* at £335, *Almond Flower I* at £340, do. II at £322½, *Gold Kilin* at £327½, *Chay Kilin* at £295, *Sibings Quong-fong* at £325. **Market Teatlees** at £275 to 322½. **TAYSAM.**—*White Kahing* *Gold Lily Flower I* at £365, II at £342½, *Tu-tu-yuen's Fung-ling* at £337½, *Green Kahing* *Green Lion I* at £332½. **SKAINS.**—*Double Man II* at £280, III at £265. **YELLOW SILKS.**—*Mienyang* at £220, *Fooyung* at £225, *Wongyi* at £227½, *Wongchow* at £215, *Szechong* at £127½. **TUSSAH.**—*Raw* at £120 to 140. **RE-REELLED TEATLEE.**—Good common at £340.

	1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.
Settlements for this mail + ... about	2,000	3,000	500	500	1,500	1,000 bales.
" for the season † "	51,300	44,000	37,500	42,500	40,000	46,000 "
Stock	12,500	2,200	11,000	10,000	9,500	6,000 "
Total Arrivals	63,500	46,200	48,500	52,500	49,000	52,000 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	3,048	31,702	34,750	4,402	672	868	40,682 bales.
" Yellow	...	4,627	4,627	...	1,387	70	6,084 "
" Wild	835	2,827	3,662	19	...	4	3,685 "
	3,883	39,156	43,039	4,421	2,059	932	50,451 "
Against in 1888-89	4,397	27,123	31,520	2,796	1,747	1,201	37,264 "
" 1887-88	3,482	27,813	31,295	2,077	2,104	1,167	36,643 "
Export—Waste Silk	12,266	23,162	35,428	48	...	56	35,532 piculs.
" Cocoons	5,803	1,496	7,299	109	...	31	7,439 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.
Also 223 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.
" 10 " " to Continent.

Tea.—BLACK.—The market has been quiet during the week, and with the intervention of the Christmas holidays, only a small business is reported. Settlements amount to 3,640 half-chests at £8 a 9½ per picul, showing no change from previous rates.

STOCK.—20,200 half-chests against 18,000 half-chests in 1888-89.

GREEN.—Country Teas have been taken to a fair extent, and settlements are about equally divided between Moyune and Teenkai descriptions. Prices show no quotable change since last mail left, but generally the tendency has been in favour of buyers. A small quantity of Pingsueys has been purchased at about former rates, but more than half the settlements are reported as shipped off on native account.

STOCK.—22,200 half-chests against 21,527 half-chests in 1888-89.

SUMMARY OF SETTLEMENTS SINCE LAST MAIL.

Pingsueys	3,222 half-chests at £16½ a 21½ per picul.
Moyune	2,570 " £16½ a 22½ "
Teenkai	2,720 " £18 a 22½ "
Fychow	513 " shipped

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

From the commencement of the season to date 1889-1890.

	1889-90.		1888-89.
	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain.....	44,379,246	5,766,611	50,155,857 lb.
" Russia direct	17,863,363	...	17,863,363 "
" America	5,997,423	13,133,354	19,130,777 "
	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain.....	45,320,927	5,277,803	50,598,730 lb.
" Russia direct	17,604,478	...	17,604,478 "
" America	3,901,231	12,732,244	16,533,475 "

Shares.—The business during this holiday week comprises China Shippers' Mutual S. N. shares at £13 15s. and £14 at 4/5 exchange, North-China Insurances at £310, Unions at \$101, China Fires at \$90½ for 31st instant and 92½ for 31st March, French Gas at £147½, Waterworks at £33 15s. for old and £27 10s. for new at 4/5 exchange, Perak Sugars at £28½, Sheridan Mines at £210, and Selama Tins, \$2 paid, at \$4½.

Exchange.—Sterling rate since last mail have dropped ½d. The demand has again been small for Bank paper but a fair supply of private was on the market after the holidays. Silver is now quoted 43½, and Council drafts 1/4½ and ½ for Post and T.T. respectively. Sycee is more plentiful, and native interest is quoted 6 cand., equal to about 2½ per cent. per annum.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Circular.)

ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		NEW YORK	HONG-KONG	YOKO-HAMA.	INDIA.
T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		Docty. 4 m/.		T/T.	Rupers. T/T.
Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest	Lowest.	Highest				
Saturday, 21st.....	4.48 4.48	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	5.70/5.73	5.70/5.73	90½	27½	72½	312
Thursday, 26th	4.44 4.44	4.5 4.5	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	5.64/5.67	5.65/5.68	91½	27½	72½	309½
Friday, 27th.....	4.44 4.44	4.5 4.5	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	4.58 4.58	5.65/5.68	5.65/5.68	91½	27½	72½	309

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 26th December comprised the following Goods:—

For the week.				Previous week.				Corresponding week last year.			
25,545 pcs. against				24,690 pcs. and				17,195 pcs.			
Grey Shirtings.....	25,545	pcs.	against	24,690	pcs.	and	17,195	pcs.			
White Shirtings	3,696	"	"	3,901	"	"	8,100	"			
T-Cloths	4,295	"	"	4,345	"	"	1,730	"			
Drills, English.....	420	"	"	420	"	"	570	"			
Jeans, ...	150	"	"	150	"	"	300	"			
Sheetings, English	120	"	"	320	"	"	580	"			
Turkey Reds	...	"	"	...	"	"	...	"			
For the week.				Previous week.				Corresponding week last year.			
...				...				...			
Velvets	...	pcs.	against	...	pcs.	and	...	pcs.			
Velveteens	...	pcs.	"	...	pcs.	"	...	pcs.			
Cotton Yarn	...	bales	"	...	bales	"	...	bales			
Camlets	1,040	pcs.	"	1,020	pcs.	"	...	900	pcs.		
Long Ells	460	"	"	460	"	"	...	560	"		
Lastings	520	"	"	560	"	"	...	540	"		
Spanish Stripes	564	"	"	510	"	"	...	586	"		

PIECE GOODS.

At Nie-kie, 21st Dec.—

Grey Shirtings.—8½lbs.—60 pieces; Blue 2 Peacock £1.52½.

T-Cloths 8½lbs.—50 pieces; Blue Joss £1.30.

7½lbs.—200 pieces.—Man £1.05½.

Sheetings.—English.—14½lbs.—140 pieces; Double Deer £2.22, Woman £2.46½ and Red Mandarin £2.60.

Do. Bombay.—60 pieces; Man £2.20.

Plain Cotton Lastings.—200 pieces; Scarlet £1.81, Dark Blue £1.84 and Gentian £1.84½/55.

Figured Cotton Lastings.—40 pieces; Assorted £0.51½.

Printed Striped Satinettes.—40 pieces; Assorted £2.79½.

Cotton Prints.—120 pieces; Assorted £1.17½ and Olive £0.96.

Alpacianas.—Assorted, 40 pieces; Gold Dragon £1.83½.

White Shirtings.—50 pieces; Gold Joss £1.83.

At E-teh-lee, 23rd Dec.—

Grey Shirtings—

8.4-lbs.—1,250 pieces; Blue Banana A \$1.41/41½. Green Banana A1 \$1.54½/55½, and Red Chong Yuen XXI \$1.68.
10-lbs.—2 400 pieces; Red Chong Yuen XXI \$1.82½/83½ and Stag \$2.10/10½ (Mildewed).

T-Cloths.—8-lbs.—32-in., 100 pieces; Parkwa \$1.34½.

8.12-lbs.—36-in., 100 pieces; Parkwa \$1.55.

At Ta-koo, 24th Dec.—

Grey Shirtings.—7-lbs.—1,000 pieces; Silver Steamboat \$1.13½.

8.4-lbs.—5,000 pieces; Blue Eagle \$1.18/18½. Man, Horse and Spear \$1.33½/33½. Silver Steamer \$1.48½/49. Red Man and Elephant \$1.55½. Red Fisherman \$1.58½/59½. Blue Fisherman \$1.67½/67½ and Blue Dragon \$1.69½/70½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—825 pieces; Silver Steamboat \$1.29 and Silver Dragon \$1.34.

8-lbs.—1,560 pieces; Man Horse and Spear M.T. No. 2 \$1.23, do. No. 1 \$1.32½/33½. Silver Steamboat \$1.44/45½ and Silver Dragon \$1.59½/60.

At E-ico, 25th Dec.—

Grey Shirtings—

8.4-lbs.—2,540 pieces; Blue 2-Duck \$1.50½. Black Tea Caddy XX \$1.50½. Blue 3-Duck \$1.54. Red Crab XX \$1.54½/55. Blue do. \$1.60. Blue Bell XX \$1.73½/74. Blue Tea Caddy DDD \$1.78, and Blue 2 Tea Caddy \$1.87/89½.

10-lbs.—250 pieces; Red Crab \$1.8½/88½.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 100 pieces; Red T-a Caddy \$1.50.

72-reed.—96 pieces; Gold Tea Caddy XXX \$1.97½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—280 pieces; Red Tea Caddy \$1.19.

At Yuen-fong, 26th Dec.—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—1,600 pieces; Lotus \$0.88, Two Man \$0.97½ and Blue 3-Students \$0.96½.

7-lbs.—2,625 pieces; Blue Britannia \$1.14½/15. Blue 4-Sister \$1.32½/32½ and Blue 3-Students \$1.48½.

8.4-lbs.—5,110 pieces; Two Man \$1.27½/28½. House \$1.33. Blue Britannia \$1.42½/43. Blue 4-Sister \$1.52½. Blue Double Shield \$1.55½. Red 3-Students \$1.73½, and Five Brothers \$1.76½/76½.

10-lbs.—1,700 pieces; Red Emperor's Birthday \$1.94½. Red Britannia \$1.91½/91½. Red 3-Students \$1.96½/96½.

10.12-lbs.—500 pieces; Gold Britannia \$2.29.

11-lbs.—1,000 pieces; Painted 3-Students \$2.31½/31½.

12-lbs.—480 pieces; Soldier \$2.36 and Nine Lions \$2.42½.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 800 pieces; House bright \$1.55½/56, and dull \$1.54½. Blue Double Lighthouse bright \$1.61½/62½ and dull \$1.57½.

72-reed.—2,650 pieces; White and Gold 3-Students \$1.94½. Red Two-Sister \$1.97½/97½. Red Double Lighthouse bright \$1.99 and dull \$1.97/98.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—730 pieces; Blue Lion \$1.19. Red Double Shield \$1.18½, and Red 3-Students \$1.29½/29½.

8-lbs.—650 pieces; Blue Lion \$1.30 and Painted 3 Students \$1.59½/59½.

Drills.—English, 14-lbs.—240 pieces; Britannia \$2.32½, and Old Man Head \$2.47/47½.

15-lbs.—180 pieces; Running Deer \$2.11/11½.

Sheetings.—English, 14-lbs.—120 pieces; and Old Man Head \$2.55½/55½.

Jeans.—English, 8-lbs.—150 pieces; Two Squirrel \$1.87½.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	dk. Blue.	dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid.	Sales. Pcs.
NIX-KEX, 21st inst.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
S. S'pos. B.T.I. p. yd.	0.45.9/46	0.44	0.46.9	0.47½	.....	0.45	0.44½	0.41½	0.47	0.48.7	0.46	0.46.55*	
Sales, pcs.	72	6	6	6*	.....	0.43.4*	6	6	12	0.45.1*	18	24	204
„ E'phant & Pot, p. yd.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.39	
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.29.2*	12
E-TEN-LEE, 23rd inst.													
Sp. S'pos. 1 Pagoda, p. y.	0.35	.....	0.38.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Sales, pcs.	6	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ Eagle, p. yd.	0.35½	.....	0.39.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Sales, pcs.	12	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ Beehive, p. yd.	0.35.1	.....	0.39½	.....	.....	.....	0.33	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.39.2	
Sales, pcs.	6	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	6*	24
E-wo, 25th inst.													
C'lets, Man Horse, p. p.	9.33	.....	9.44	9.39	9.02	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Sales, pcs.	50	.....	30	10*	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ Bear, p. pc.	9.07/08	.....	8.99	8.63	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Sales, pcs.	30	.....	10	10*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ D'ble Deer, p. p.	8.80	.....	7.75	8.60	8.25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Sales, pcs.	20	.....	10	10*	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Long Elle, H. D. R. p. p.	4.84/85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
Sales, pcs.	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ S'gle Phoenix...	4.59/60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Sales, pcs.	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S. S'pos. S'gle Phoenix	0.41.9	0.43.9	0.43.3/43.4	0.45.2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.40	0.42	.....	168
Sales, pcs.	84	12	48	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	6	.....	
YUEN-FONG, 26th inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G., p. pc.	10.10/15	10.15/17½	9.87½/92½	10.22½	10.12½	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.00/05	9.57½/60	.....	400
Sales, pcs.	160	70	100	10*	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	30*	.....	
„ G.G.M., p. pc.	10.27½	.....	9.95	.....	10.17½	.....	10.02½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Sales, pcs.	20	.....	10	.....	10	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
„ S.S.H., p. pc.	9.40/42½	9.15/17½	9.55/60	.....	9.15/25	.....	9.30	.....	9.00	8.80/85	9.87½/90	.....	390
Sales, pcs.	150	80	80	.....	20	.....	10	.....	10	20	20*	.....	
Long Elle, G.G.L., p. p.	5.13/16	6.56	5.36	.....	.....	.....	4.94	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
Sales, pcs.	140	20	20	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	8.40/47½	.....	8.80	.....	
Castings, G.G.R., p. pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250	.....	40*	.....	320
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.87½/90	.....	6.92½	.....	
„ F.F.R., p. pc. ....	.....	.....	7.45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160	.....	20	.....	200
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S. S'pos. T.T.B. p. yd.	0.48½/49	0.47½	0.46½	.....	0.42	0.45½	.....	0.43	0.48½	.....	.....	0.51	126
Sales, pcs.	60	12	6	.....	6	6	.....	6	6	.....	.....	24	

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Ore and Tiles.....	per picul	13.9.0	@ 15.3.0	SUGAR—			
TIN PLATES—Parson's and I. C. Coke, per box		4.3.0	.. 4.4.0	White, Canton, No. 1	per picul	4.9.0	@ 5.0.0
Decorated		5.5.0	.. 7.0.0	White, Canton, No. 2		4.6.0	.. 4.7.0
STEEL, Bamboo	per picul	3.8.5	.. 4.0.0	White, Canton, No. 3		4.1.0	.. 4.2.0
TIN, Fok Chuk		26.3.0	.. ..	White, Swatow, No. 1		5.0.0	.. 5.1.0
Sowkong		25.1.0	.. ..	White, Swatow, No. 2		4.7.0	.. 4.9.0
SPELTER, W. H. Remelted		6.7.0	.. 7.0.0	White, Swatow, No. 3		4.2.0	.. 4.3.0
Hard		5.0.0	.. 5.5.0	Brown, Canton, Best		3.1.0	.. 3.2.0
IRON, Gartaherrie No. 1	per ton	25.0.0	.. 26.0.0	Common		2.6.0	.. 2.7.0
No. 3		23.0.0	.. 24.0.0	Swatow, Best		3.2.0	.. 3.3.0
Common brands		22.5.0	.. 23.0.0	Common		2.7.0	.. 2.9.0
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21	per picul	4.2.0	.. 4.3.0	Black		13.7.0	.. 14.2.0
14 & 25		4.5.0	.. 4.5.5	White		25.0.0	.. 25.5.0
18 & 25		4.5.0	.. 4.6.0	Best		4.7.0	.. 5.3.0
IRON—Nail Rod—				Common		3.8.0	.. 4.2.0
Lawes'		2.6.5	.. 2.7.0	SAPAN WOOD	per picul	2.7.0	.. 3.1.0
Staffordshire		2.5.5	.. 2.6.0	SANDAL WOOD, South Sea		5.0.0	.. 5.5.0
Scotch		2.6.5	.. 2.7.0	Timor		7.8.0	.. 8.2.0
Belgian and Schiers No. 1		2.4.0	.. 2.4.5	Malabar		17.5.0	.. 18.0.0
Schiers Exp.		2.4.5	.. 2.5.0	WINDOW GLASS—			
English—Bar		2.6.0	.. 2.7.0	Good assortments Belgian No. 3 & 4 per box		2.4.0	.. 2.4.5
Belgian		2.3.0	.. 2.4.0	MATCHES—			
Swedish		2.9.0	.. 3.0.0	Swedish Safety, Red and Black Dip., per case		11.0.0	.. 14.0.0
IRON—				Phosphor		12.7.6	.. 13.5.0
I.R.		4.7.0	.. 4.8.0	Paraffine		13.0.0	.. 15.0.0
Euthoven and other brands		4.6.0	.. 4.6.5	Japanese and Shanghai		8.0.8	.. 13.5.0
ZINC SHEATING, No. 4 to 12		7.7.5	.. 8.2.5	Vienna Brilliant	per 25 gross	16.2.5	.. 17.7.5
WHITE METAL, (German Silver)		40.0.0	.. 47.0.0	Kerosene—Devoe's	per case	1.4.9	.. 1.5.0
NICKEL—Cube		60.0.0	.. 82.0.0	FLINT STONES	per picul	0.6.2	.. 0.7.2
				COTTON—Shanghai, best		12.3.0	.. ..
				Compoek		12.5.0	.. ..
				RICE—Shanghai	per 150 cat.	3.3.0	.. 3.6.0
				Chinkiang		2.7.0	.. 2.9.0
				HIDES—Cow	per picul	13.0.0	.. 13.5.0

TABLE OF RE-EXPORTS FROM SHANGHAI TO TIE TSIEN FOR THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS, COMPILED FROM "THE CUSTOMS RETURNS."

GOODS.	1889.*	1888.*	1887.*	1886.*	1885.*	1884.*	1883.†	1882.†	1881.†	1880.†	1879.†
Grey Shirtings	1,275,850	1,223,588	1,277,486	1,238,939	1,328,320	1,148,027	1,133,400	1,029,200	1,115,600	975,000	1,218,900
T-Cloths, 32-in.	296,227	305,527	346,335	338,393	468,823	446,344	451,400	445,100	513,700	494,100	570,800
T-Cloths, 36-in.	8,160	6,020	9,260	6,608	5,880						
White Shirtings	590,061	566,465	642,790	573,280	593,720	566,821	475,000	470,500	536,700	422,900	442,100
Drills, Eng. & Dutch ..	116,133	154,394	138,761	118,317	134,474	74,170	114,800	119,200	199,600	140,500	184,700
American	256,541	238,560	230,775	269,137	168,960	193,987	190,500	168,000	190,300	114,800	259,700
Jeans, Eng. & Dutch ..	92,192	88,891	129,278	93,076	78,399	70,845	83,400		126,300	152,500	118,100
American	15,770	17,435	27,480	20,880	14,960	33,620	22,300				
Sheetings, English	140,820	236,087	100,080	25,223	45,132	80,135	43,300	36,500	39,400	34,000	36,400
American	917,151	689,488	890,892	976,683	718,032	534,060	363,000	368,500	369,000	355,000	409,000
Dyed Shirtings	19,558	7,190	11,492	4,783	24,725	14,687	8,500	9,300			
Bro. & Spot Shts., Wh. ..	599		300	30	1,981	400	94				2,300
Dyed	8,763	12,320	19,239	14,613	7,479	14,450	11,450	5,400	5,800	13,700	22,700
Damask, Dyed			40		320	540	940		1,193	1,500	860
Chintzes	80,796	79,815	88,480	78,828	50,871	53,356	65,900				
Printed T-Cloths	54,016	55,198	83,006	61,566	38,491	24,395		68,500	61,100	58,700	62,000
Printed Twills	27,630	32,353	37,430	33,709	45,264	42,872	42,000				
Turkey Red Shirtings ..	102,835	100,611	117,859	107,550	118,671	135,201	181,500	130,300	156,700	119,000	121,100
Velvets	2,895	1,344	2,054	4,395	2,436	660	1,300				
Velveteens	597	652	211	302	110	178	360	2,400	3,200	2,700	845
Handkerchiefs	18,071	19,934	29,857	17,135	14,056	13,126	8,700	18,700	30,400	13,800	21,100
Muslins	15,345	25,534	21,078	13,261	11,838	17,337	17,800	20,000	16,600	11,000	14,900
Dimities		150	300	150	100	200	1,200	1,300	1,100		1,900
Cot. Yarn Bombay, Pol. ..	55,880	35,807		56,950	38,759	27,058	8,209	6,000	4,900		
English	7,311	2,506									
Spanish Stripes	5,668	7,435	8,924	8,024	8,554	7,486	5,500	6,400	8,200	6,600	6,400
Med. & Broad Cloths	1,222	1,665	1,813	2,481	2,084	1,554	2,100	608	300		50
Camlets	5,357	4,128	8,730	7,250	5,290	6,794	4,300	7,000	8,400	7,100	9,200
Long Elis	3,120	2,960	4,680	2,860	2,660	3,300	2,880	2,000	2,100	1,600	2,300
Lastings	14,549	14,400	18,905	13,077	14,466	12,844	11,900	10,700	12,400	12,900	11,900
Crape				140	100	140	140	160	549		
Cot. L'tings & Italian	189,857	227,556	248,668	170,042	166,381	152,122	93,300	53,200			
Lustres, Plain	366	270	920	1,280	450	950	80				
Figured	2,560	3,030	5,366	7,693	7,085	14,021	18,600	13,900	18,400	14,300	37,200
Crape						210	100				
Lead in Pigs	19,147	5,615	14,116	12,725	3,634	26,897	4,300	13,400	8,400	18,000	12,000
Iron—Nail Rod	17,034	13,440	22,251	20,991	16,538	14,122	7,300	16,100	31,600	2,500	15,600

* Compiled from the Daily Returns for year to date.

† Taken from Annual Returns, 1882, p. 35, Table No. 4, IMPORT TRADE.

‡ No Returns furnished in above Table No. 4 for these years.

§ No Returns furnished in above Table No. 4, but the article is probably bracketed with Brocades.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 24th Dec., 1889, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 294 to 298, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chiao.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Pootung.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Huob.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	4,250	...	8,129	50	3,105	21,975	8,575	...	...	420	1800	12598	100	7,101
T-Cloths, 32-in.	725	...	905	60	110	100	4,115	...	...	570	...	...	...	...
" 36-in.	880	...	...	240	170	320	...	...	...	...	600	...	...	...
White Shirtings	500	...	650	100	631	7,090	649	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Drills, English & Dutch ..	15	...	165	15	...	...	180	...	...	...	...	300	75	60
" American	255	...	75	15	...	...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
Jeans, English & Dutch	230	...	30	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	100	...	100	50	560	270	480	...	...	...	...	...	...	280
" American	...	...	20	...	...	...	2,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	160
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	36	...	...	234	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Broadens & Sp. Stings, White	...	...	47	...	50	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
" Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Danasks, Dyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	50	...	50	...	...	483	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Printed T-Cloths	...	...	...	...	...	170	370	...	...	...	...	...	...	320
Printed Twills	80	...	144	...	...	80	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
Turkey Red Shirtings	150	...	800	50	...	960	1,244	...	...	50	...	...	...	300
Velvets	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Handkerchiefs.....Doz.	200	...	400	600	...	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	...	...	21	...	180	268	384	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" English	...	...	3	3	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Spanish Stripes	24	...	42	6	30	54	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	...	...	12	...	...	141	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Camlets	...	...	10	30	50	330	30	...	...	30	30	...	...	130
Long Ellis	...	...	80	80	20	600	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Lastings	...	...	80	...	20	940	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
" Crape	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Lastings, Cotton & Italians ..	190	...	661	...	30	1,008	960	...	...	...	...	...	...	420
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Figured Orleans	...	...	120	...	...	120	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Lustres, Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs.....Pols.	42	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod.....	13	...	210	357	...	...	525	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Goods.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, OF 1ST JULY, 1889.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to same term.	*At date Estimated.	Against 26th Dec. 1888.
Grey Shirtings †.....Pcs.	76,603	5,434,598	5,608,195	224,719	6,091,268	5,632,337	1,608,258	854,463
T-Cloths, 32-in.	8,785	1,282,310	1,260,162	7,170	1,034,856	1,601,376	391,916	539,109
" 36-in.	4,510	312,794	213,743	1,430	381,586	441,155	184,607	216,316
White Shirtings	12,870	1,681,080	1,724,574	27,975	1,515,494	2,289,195	371,312	613,730
Drills, English and Dutch ..	1,020	345,024	419,238	3,630	295,281	609,997	190,593	261,786
" American	795	525,289	452,699	18,375	636,500	482,875	103,384	13,621
Jeans, English and Dutch	1,140	139,167	145,724	2,010	116,079	127,073	21,590	42,957
" American	...	16,990	26,545	...	9,000	9,000	...	2,660
Sheetings, English	1,840	493,404	677,937	35,570	399,461	1,004,065	402,302	497,723
" Am.	2,180	1,264,166	938,003	2,000	858,200	1,572,605	328,939	755,573
Dyed Shirtings	410	160,434	137,724	1,940	117,108	183,157	15,329	42,714
Bro. & Spot, Shirts, White	...	3,492	1,980	...	2,400	3,714	2,604	3,832
" Dyed	247	35,280	33,426	1,496	34,304	47,498	11,604	10,329
Danasks, Dyed	...	330	1,343	...	16	1,563	4,803	...
Chintzes	1,023	226,529	236,572	4,530	236,710	355,563	68,540	49,327
Printed T-Cloths	860	127,222	143,755	...	69,213	154,564	141,149	261,322
Printed Twills	538	85,805	95,576	...	60,173	170,828	113,138	107,718
Turkey Red Shirtings	3,754	390,724	370,267	3,459	313,267	474,833	69,437	171,259
Velvets	76	38,064	35,905	300	27,333	36,007	11,199	17,775
Velveteens	90	13,353	14,328	436	13,293	15,308	12,615	6,509
Handkerchiefs.....Doz.	3,800	407,604	280,808	5,729	327,367	511,089	247,848	308,839
Muslins	250	182,627	223,737	...	246,701	401,495	182,497	166,538
Dimities	...	100	780	...	9	1,288	1,613	2,603
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	873	178,033	150,404	339	195,598	161,653	35,606	15,333
" English	27	35,790	46,368	120	25,322	61,685	7,190	17,293
Spanish Stripes	284	27,574	42,136	336	36,465	52,463	18,150	22,538
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	227	21,283	25,857	2	12,115	29,601	17,370	26,696
Camlets	710	89,903	92,952	1,180	99,008	79,309	30,826	19,413
Long Ellis	930	82,163	77,847	1,820	89,14	81,907	14,900	17,653
Lastings	1,380	104,532	121,216	150	93,008	133,929	69,362	65,861
" Crape	50	2,410	2,038	...	820	1,738	498	450
Cotton Lastings & Italians ..	3,439	480,670	576,455	3,428	289,463	997,437	307,863	499,130
Lustres, Plain	...	6,867	3,189	50	2,901	4,976	...	228
Figured Orleans	340	28,503	34,686	...	14,754	30,534	21,777	22,639
Lustres, Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,050	...
Lead in Pigs.....Pols.	112	113,368	86,803	...	139,838	132,506	49,966	55,378
Iron—Nail Rod.....	1,105	168,011	171,194	232	246,430	310,946	146,480	186,668

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Ganges, Hongkong, Achilles, Glenearn, Glenshiel, Sikh and Iraouaddy.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: Kainow, Jason, Saghatien, Gaucus, and Monmouthshire, and additional -x Ching Wo and Anchises.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

27TH DECEMBER, 1889.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 4½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 4½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 5½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 5½d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 5½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 5½d., 6 months' sight, 4s. 5½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.53; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.65, 6 months' sight, 5.68. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills 4 months' sight, 9¼. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 30 days' sight, 27½. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, 72½; Private Bills, 30 days' sight, 71½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 309. Calcutta, Rs. 309. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, £223.00. Silver Bars, £111.15. Mexican dollars, £74.20. Copper Cash, 1,350. Native Interest, mace 1.

SHARES.

The Christmas Holidays have interfered with business.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—There is no change to report. Our closing quotation is nominal.

SHIPPING.—China Shippers' Mutual S. N. shares have been placed at £13½ to £14, and exchange 4/5.

GAS.—Shares in the Compagnie du Gaz have been sold at £147½.

MARINE INSURANCE.—North-Chinas have changed hands at £340, and Unions at £101.

MINING.—Sheridans have been sold at £210, and Selamas at \$4½.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Business has been done in Waterworks shares, old at £33½ and new at £27½, with exchange 4/5, and in Perak Sugar Cultivation shares at £28½.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.		
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.	Tails.	
Banks.											
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	60,000	\$125	\$125	\$4,400,000	\$70,307.32	30 June 89	* £1½	26 Aug. 89	186 ½ pr.	260.97	
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	54,700	£10	£10	£170,416.46	22,511.12.11	31 Mar. 89	* 3 %	9 July 89	£10½	49.71	
Shipping.											
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd. ...	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,488.78	31 Dec. 88	* £2	10 Oct. 89	...	81.50	
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	22,445.16.10	£1,606.14.91	31 Dec. 88	+ £2.98	12 July 89	...	31.00	
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£41,000.00	30 June 89	* 5 %	6 July 89	...	400.00	
China Shippers' Mutual S. N. Co.	7,662	£20	£13	£52,000.00	£3,495.11.23	31 Dec. 88	* £1.79	5 Dec. 89	£14.00	63.40	
Taku Tug and Lighter Co.	8,600	£150	£150	£20,000.00	£23,582.97	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	8 Feb. 88	£151.50	54.33	
Docks.											
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,000.00	£552.77	30 June 89	* 2 ½ %	5 July 89	...	388.00	
Footung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	£12,458.70	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	14 Jan. 88	...	20.00	
Gas.											
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£70,000.00	£2,254.96	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	9 July 89	...	180.00	
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£19,647.18	£89.90	31 Dec. 88	* ½ %	3 July 89	...	147.50	
Insurance (Marine.)											
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd. ...	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$650,000.00	\$231,343.91	30 Apr. 89	+ \$5	9 Sept. 89	\$70.00	51.10	
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	\$200	\$50	\$327,566.50	\$653,753.46	30 June 89	+ £26.83	27 Apr. 89	...	340.00	
Union Ins. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$732,500.00	\$46,216.41	30 June 89	+ \$7	16 Oct. 89	\$101.00	73.73	
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	\$100	\$100	\$139,610.62	.....	3 Apr. 89	+ 3 ½ %	18 Jan. 89	...	95.00	
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,600	\$1,000	\$200	\$28,711.50	\$15,285.84	31 Dec. 87	+ 3 %	2 Apr. 88	\$85.00	nominal	
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$417,000.00	\$493,203.86	30 Sep. 89	+ 10 %	8 Jan. 89	\$135.00	98.55	
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$115,000	\$113,000.00	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	21 Oct. 89	\$22.00	16.06	
Insurance (Fire.)											
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,031,486	\$326,787.88	31 Dec. 88	+ 33 ⅓ %	4 Mar. 89	\$380.00	277.40	
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited ...	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$620,000	\$163,443.29	31 Dec. 88	+ 25 %	6 Mar. 89	\$90.00	67.50	
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$13,000.00	\$54,215.27	31 Dec. 88	+ 8 %	1 Mar. 89	\$17.50	12.77	
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd. ...	29,176	\$100	\$20	\$11,875.91	\$132,507.27	31 Dec. 88	+ 13 ⅓ %	27 Apr. 89	\$16.25	11.86	
Wharfs.											
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co. ...	2,867	£100	£100	£87,589.75	£1,786.71	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	21 Aug. 89	...	225.00	
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company...	2,100	£50	£50	£3,449.46	£1260.17	31 Oct. 88	* 31 ⅓ %	29 Nov. 89	...	34.00	
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100	£12,000	£1,949.08	31 Dec. 88	+ 4 %	6 Feb. 89	...	90.00	
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited.	17,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$2,755.25	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	6 Mar. 89	\$93.00	67.89	
Mining.											
Sheridan Mining Co.	3,000	£100	£100	£29,125.85	.....	31 Jan. 89	£ 15	23 Apr. 89	...	210.00	
Mendota Mining Co.	3,000	£100	£100	£6,107.90	.....	31 Jan. 89	£ 3	31 Dec. 87	...	210.00	
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd. ...	120,000	\$5	\$2	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$4.75	3.47	
Do. do.	20,000	\$5	\$5	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$6.75	5.93	
Cargo Boats.											
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£3,003.47	£2,834.25	31 Dec. 88	* 3 ⅓ %	2 Aug. 89	...	180.00	
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	£100	£100	£2,600.00	£1,781.79	31 Dec. 88	+ 3 ⅓ %	28 Feb. 89	...	50.00	
Miscellaneous.											
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	£5,000.00	£1,177.15.11	31 Dec. 88	* 3 ⅓ %	1 Aug. 89	£33.15.0	152.88	
Do. New Shares.	1,200	£20	£15	.....	.....	.....	* 3 ⅓ %	1 Aug. 89	£27 10.0	124.58	
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£112,333.69	31 Dec. 88	None	None	...	28.50	
Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co., Ltd	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£15,000.00	3 Feb. 89	£24	1 May 88	...	28.00	
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	667	\$100	\$100	.....	\$4,247.63	31 Dec. 88	\$5	July 89	\$125	91.25	
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	300	£100	£100	.....	£186.98	31 Oct. 89	+ £7	28 Nov. 89	...	100.00	
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	£50	£30	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	34.50	
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$112.50	62.12	
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	53.00	
Major Brothers, Limited	6,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	50.00	

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	£45,000.00	£45,000.00	£ 100	7 ⅓ %	Dec. & June.	£105.00
Do. 1885	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	£ 100	7 ⅓ %	Do.	£105 nom.
Do. 1888	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£ 100	6 %	Do.	£103 ⅓
China Merchants' S. N. Co. Debentures	£300,000	£204,000	£ 100	7 ⅓ %	Quarterly	£106(a)
Lyceum Theatre Debentures	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£ 25	* 4 %	7 Jan. '89	£11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1884 B	\$1,394,700.14	\$418,410.04	\$ 500	8 %	30th June.	\$505 (a)
Do. do. 1884 C	\$1,594,700.14	\$1,036,820.08	\$ 500	8 %	15th Oct.	\$505 (a)
Do. do. 1886 E	\$1,767,900.00	\$746,700.00	\$ 250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	\$290.00(a)

* For half-year, † For quarter year, ‡ For year. £ A deficit. \$ Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.